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HEAD START Designers Iain R.Webb on

milliners with an eye on the future PAGE 16



WALLENBERG AND THE U.S.

The Good Samaritan did not act alone says Michael Pinto-Duschinsky PAGE 18



IMES

DRESSE TO THRELL

Jane Shilling has a crash course on rock style at the Brit Awards, P17

'Wise men' would be abolished

Brown plans independence for the Bank

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

GORDON BROWN will today announce the first steps a Labour government would. take towards creating an independent Bank of England. He intends to change the personalised links between the Governor and Chancellor that

Eddie show, and to scrap the independent panel of men and women". Instead, he wants to set up two new bodies to give him a much broader range of advice: a monetary policy committee, chaired by the Governor, which would formulate the

created the so-called Ken and

Bank's advice, and a council of economic advisers to work with the Treasury. The reforms are seen as an essential prelude to changes that could lead to an independent Bank that sets interest rates to meet inflation targets laid down by the government. But it is clear that the Bank would be on trial in the early Labour years. A source close to the Shadow Chancellor said: "We will not consider moving forward towards independence until these reforms are in place and the Bank has established a good track record of advice. This is LabBlair's plans for No 10 top team

If Labour wins the election, Tony Blair wants to ensure that his office will be in control of the government machine. The key to his success would be a No IO team to keep a check on Whitehall departments Page 6 Leading article, page 19

our dipping its toe in the water of independence, but these reforms are needed quickly to stabilise the position between the Bank and the Chancellor." Mr Brown is understood to have agreed the new monetary policy committee in private talks with senior Bank offici-

als. It would comprise the Governor and his deputy, two executive directors responsible for monetary policy and three from outside who would be come full-time Bank employees on three or four-year contracts. Both the Governor and I will be committed to ensuring these appointments are made on the basis of reputation and expertise." Mr Brown will say.

the guidelines were followed.

Tory MPs in particular have

cut the amount of outside

income declared in the regis-

ter, disclosing about £2 mil-lion compared with some £2.3

million last year. Labour's

declared earnings are under

£500,000, compared with

For the second year, Roy

Hattersley, the former Labour

deputy leader, heads the list of

declared earnings, disclosing

income of up to £110,000 for

£600,000 last year.

personalising of the relation-ship between Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George as being deeply damaging. The fact that the making of monetary policy has descended into a running dispute between the Chancellor and the Bank of England; often conducted through the media, is one reason why we have not achieved sufficient credibility and are now paying the price of higher long term interest rates and lower investment."

Mr Brown will go on to accuse Conservatives of misusing the panel of independent forecasters known as the "wise men and women" and say that the idea has run its course. Instead, Labour would set up a council reflecting a much wider range of expertise to advise the Chancellor on monetary policy and other matters in which the Treasury has a direct interest.

Today's speech will emphasise throughout Labour's commitment to low inflation, and Mr Brown will promise to match the Government's target of 2.5 per cent.
But Mr Clarke yesterday

claimed that there was a £12 billion "black hole" Labour's spending calculations that would mean higher Chancellor said that Labour's because Mr Brown had not committed himself to some of the Conservatives' revenueraising measures and had overestimated other income.

Opposition to the privatisation programme would deprive a Labour government of £1.5 billion, and the release of £2.5 billion of council money could not be counted within public spending calculations. Mr Clarke said. A windfall tax on privatised utilities would not cover the cost of Labour's planned youth training programme, and other items had been unitted from spending and borrowing figures, including £1.8 billion to extend student loans and £640 million for school repairs.

Peter Riddell, page 8



Kosher chefs cook up royal banquet

By ALAN HAMILTON

BUCKINGHAM Palace went kosher last night when the Queen entertained President Weizman to a banquet at the start of the first state visit to Britain by an Israeli head of

Part of the Palace kitchens were given over to Tony Page. London's leading Jewish ca-terer, to prepare the evening's menu for about 30 of the 200 guests who abide by strict Jewish dietary law.

The Queen served a sale menu of sole, veal and a mango melba, steering well clear of the Jewish prohibi-tions of shellfish, pork and

than the taxpayer or other

meat served with dairy products. Regular Palace kitchen staff prepared the same menu under less stringent conditions for the majority of

Approved Jewish waiters were specially hired for the evening to serve the Orthodox guests. Even the wines, Puligny-Montrachet, a Château l'Anglues and Veuve Cliquot champagne had to be served by approved watters for the strictly Orthodox.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said: This poses no problem. The Queen is well used to dealing with the special dietary requirements

As expected, Mr Weizman extended an invitation to the Scots Guards played the haunting and mournful Israe-Queen to visit Israel, one of the li national anthem, Hatikva. The level of security in few countries she has not visited. Israel would like the Queen to attend next year's celebrations for the 50th annivisit standards. versary of the founding of the

central London was unusually high yesterday, even by state state, but Palace sources said privately last night that there was little chance of her fitting

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Billie-Jo's foster father released on bail

By Emma Wilkins AND ADRIAN LEE

THE foster father of Billie-Jo Jenkins, the murdered schoolgirl, was released on police bail last night to return to Hastings police station in five weeks' time.

Sion Jenkins, 39, was arrested on Monday and ques-tioned for 36 hours. Last night Detective Superintendent Jeremy Paine, who is leading the investigation, said: "The inquiry is continuing to make substantial progress. However, we would still like to hear from anyone with any information."

Billie-Jo, 13, was bludgeoned to death with an 18 in metal tent spike as she painted patio doors at her home in Lower Park Road, Hastings, on February 15.

Mr Jenkins became Billie-Jo's legal guardian in Decem-ber after fostering her since 1993 when she joined the couple's daughters Annie, 12, Lottie, 10, Esther, nine, and Maya, seven.

He told police he found her body when he returned home with Lottie and Annie after leaving her alone for 40 minutes. The other two daughters were shopping with their mother.

Mr Jenkins, headmaster-designate of the William Parker secondary school in the seaside town, told detectives that less than a formight before the murder he disturbed a man in the rear garden of his house. He also the park opposite staring at their house, and the family installed security lights as they

grew increasingly worried.

Mr Jenkins is a widelyrespected and well-liked member of his community. He and his wife Lois, 35, who have been married for 15 years, are regular members of the congregation at Halton Baptist

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IN THE VIDDLE OF

Courts 'unfair'

THE Commons purge on

sleaze has produced a sharp

fall in the amount of outside

earnings divulged by MPs, it was disclosed last night.

The second register of MPs

outside financial interests to

be published since the intro-

duction of tougher rules shows a reduction of more than £300,000 in declared earn-

ings. However, doubt was cast over MPs interpretation of the new rules, when the Com-

mons disciplinary watchdog called for a review of the way

The British court martial system was condemned as unfair and in breach of human rights in a unanimous ruling by the European Court of Human Rights Page II

Human clones

The scientists at the centre of a successful experiment to clone a sheep said that the same thiniques could be used on human beings, but it would be



The Times on the Internet

Sleaze purge cuts

MPs' outside cash

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ANDREW PIERCE

http://www.the-times.co.uk



Divorce pensions split is delayed for three years

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT by the divorcing couple rather

PLANS to allow divorcing couples to split their pensions at the time they break up will be unveiled in a White Paper today. But Lord Mackay of

Ardbrecknish, a Social Sec-

urity Minister, will announce that the proposals will not be retrospective and are unlikely to come into effect until 2000: The proposals were originally opposed by the Govern-ment — until Ministers bowed to Labour pressure to ensure that the Family Law Bill, containing other divorce law reforms, got through the Com-mons last year. Labour at-tempted to amend the Bill to include pension splitting but ministers argued that the issue was so complex that it required separate legislation. Labour will almost certainly introduce similar laws, if it

wins the election. Under the plans, divorcing couples will be able to agree to split the capital sum which has already accrued in a

pension fund. The company could either set up a separate pension for the wife (in most cases) or she could transfer the funds to a new personal pension. The costs of transferring the pension would be met



Trs an extraordinary breakthrough - they can turn one pension into two identical halves"

pension holders. Although in most cases the new laws will benefit the spouse without a pension, Ministers concede that it could lead to more cases where the family house has to be sold. Under present arrangements the husband often agrees that the wife keeps the house as part of a financial settlement because he will get the

Ministers hope that the changes will encourage more women to take out personal pensions. They also point out the advantage of a clean break at the time of the divorce. Under the Pension Act 1995, women are now entitled to a share of their husband's pension when he retires.

Some aspects of the legislation are still causing problems. These include what happens where a pension has already been paid out, where the husband has retired.

Tory accuses BBC of paid-leave bias

By CAROL MIDGLEY

THE BBC was accused of political bias yesterday for giving a Radio 4 broadcaster five months' paid leave to fight a

marginal seat for Labour. Ben Bradshaw, a presenter for The World at One, has not worked on the programme since being selected as a election candidate for Exeter in September. His Conservative rival, Dr Adrian Rogers, who has a private medical practice in the city, said: "If the BBC was paying for me to campaign I would be able to canvass every house in Exeter but I have to work ten hours a

family fed. "The BBC have given Mr Bradshaw a huge advantage. It is very difficult to find the time out of a professional working day to nurse a constituency and, personally, I am self-employed and can only do

day as a doctor to keep my

it with a financial sacrifice. "I am not complaining about my lot but if my opponent is being paid out of as "a sterile, disease-ridden mine and every other licence- and god-forsaken occupation".

payer's money then it is not fair. I have heard of companies who give candidates paid leave to fight elections because they judge it is in their best interests but for the BBC to take that view is quite

a visit into her schedule within

Accompanied by his wife

Reuma, the 72-year-old former

RAF Spitfire pilot and founder

of the Israeli Air Force was

greeted by the Queen and the

Duke of Edinburgh in the

traditional ceremony at Horse

Guards, as the band of the

the next two years.

confirms my suspicions." Last night, within hours of the complaint, the BBC said that it had found Mr Bradshaw a full-time job in west London. It added: "He will be working for the new head of business programmes on a project looking at closer integration of radio and tele-

wrong. I have always said the

BBC is left of centre and this

vision business coverage." The Exeter seat, which Sir John Hannam, the retiring Tory MP, won with a 4,045 majority in 1992, is regarded as a key marginal that promises a colourful fight.

Mr Bradshaw is openly homosexual and Dr Rogers a right-wing moral campaigner who describes homosexuality

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Mind the gap ... in Labour's Underground line

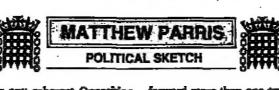
صكدا من رلامل

elled at PM's Questions yesterday. Tony Blair asked John Major three times about plans to privatise London Underground. MPs from the nacked benches on both sides roared forth their views. Three times Mr Major asked Mr Blair to wait a minute: a Statement was imminent. All seemed so impatient.

PM's Questions came to an end. The cameras, still working, lost interest. So did most of the MPs, who left. So did Mr Blair, who left too, the urgency of his concern miraculously departed. The Statement was left to a thin House, the ghostly Transport Secretary Sir George Young and his ghastly Labour Shadow, Andrew Smith.

Once upon a time, The Times would have reported not just the Statement and Opposition front bench reply, but the backbench questions too. Today only Hansard does. Yet the reaction of the whole Opposition makes a fascinating study. When plans to privatise British Rail were announced (to Labour anger). Mr Blair had only started modernising his party. Now

new Labour is ready. The London Underground plans are the first major privatisation idea to which a fully-fledged new Labour Party has had to respond. Yesterday the idea was unveiled.



discover any coherent Opposition response, except that they were against it. No case against this privatisation was advanced which was not an case against all privatisations. The implicit view was that the profit motive was incompatible with public service; private ownership of any body

delivering a public service, wrong. From the front bench, Mr Smith lent an hysterical tone to a reply almost without content. It was forward more than one option. To privatise a public service like this was "an abdication of responsibility". Such a sale was "regardless of the interests of passengers".

For the Liberal Democrats.

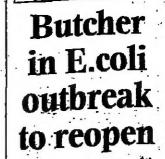
David Chidgey (Eastleigh) opposed the plans, but did not explain why. Gwyneth Dunwoody (Lab, Crewe and Nantwich) called it a "brutal transference of the taxpayers" assets". Tony Banks (Newham NW) said no other country had done it. Ken Livingstone (Brent E) made the

er London Council John Fraser (Norwood) said that new lines would never be constructed by a profit-motivated organisation. Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow) was concerned the tunnels might fall in.

Clive Soley (Hammersmith) said that if the Underground were in need of investment, then it could only be sold cheaply. Kate Hoey (Vauxhail), Margaret Hodge (Barkng) and David Winnick (Walsall N) implied it was wrong to spend money on advice for this, before an election. Harry Cohen (Leyton) said proved the Government had given up on London commuters. Gordon Prentice (Pendle) com-

Flynn (Newport W) said that the Channel Tunnel was a bad advertisement for private schemes. Si-mon Hughes (Lib Dem, Southwark and Bermondsey) and others asked why sufficient private money could not be found without relinquishing public ownership.

Two arguments were missing. Nobody tried to distinguish this from previous privatisations or to suggest why this should be blocked but the others left undisturbed. And (to my astonishment) almost nothing was said by Labour MPs about the privatisation of British Rail as a precedent. They have gone silent on the subject. It was Tories who



The butcher at the centre of the E.coli food poisoning epidemic which killed 18 people in Scotland, is expected to reopen his shop in Wishaw, Lanarkshire, tomorrow. John Barr & Son has been cleared by North Lanarkshire Council to reopen three months after he voluntarily closed. Yesterday his solicitor, George Moore, said he would be one of the first butchers to introduce shop improvements recommended by a microbiologist in the government report on the

outbreak. Three people in Lincolnshire have contracted E.Coli. They are believed to have developed the infection after eating in an Indian restaurant in Market Deeping.

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and the Down.

Break in talks

The Stormont talks on the future of Northern Ireland, which have made little progress since opening last June. are to be wound up next week for the duration of the general Mitchell, the former US senator and talks chairman, is expected to fly home next month.

Beef-ban plan

The Agriculture Minister yesterday petitioned Brussels for a step-by-step lifting of the beef export ban with a pro-posed certification scheme for BSE-free cattle. If the EU accepts the plan, farmers whose herds meet strict criteria would be able to resume selling animals and beef abroad.

Greenham clear

A survey of Greenham Common, the former US Air Force nuclear base, has found no radiation "hotspots". The Campaign for Nuclear Dis-armament had claimed there was a cover-up after a fire in 1958, when a B-47 jettisoned fuel tanks. There has been a leukaemia cluster near by.

Drama attacked

A television drama, No Child of Mine, which was shown last night as the true story of a girl's sexual abuse, has been condemned as "fiction". The Association of Directors of Social Services says the child yed in the programme has a history of making false rape allegations.

Testing fears

Three in ten people would refuse genetic testing for he-reditary diseases for fear of having to pay larger insurance premiums, according to a survey for the Genetics Forum. Eight in ten believe insurance companies should not be allowed to refuse cover on the basis of test results.

Advert code

A voluntary code encouraging manufacturers to avoid meaningless or misleading claims about the environmental value of their products was an-nounced by John Gummer. the Environment Secretary. The National Consumers' Council said that the code should be backed by law.

Irish envov

A cousin of the comedian Steve Coogan is to become the next Irish ambassador to Washington Sean Oh Uiginn. 52, who talks proudly of his English relative, is fiercely nationalist and was pivotal in the Anglo-Irish negotiations that led to the Downing Street declaration of 1993.

Blood blooms

Anaemic houseplants may really need a blood transfusion, research in Sweden has University of Lund has boost ed the performance of tobacco plants by giving them the gene for haemoglobin, the red pig-ment that carries oxygen in the bloodstream.

Seconds out

An attempt by 2,845 childrent to set the record for the world's largest orchestra has been rejected by the Guin-ness Book of Records. They played too quickly, under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle in November, and fell short of the required five minutes qualifying time by 27 seconds.



Railtrack lines up with Virgin to buy Tube network

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

headed the queue of companies lined up to bid for the London Underground yesterday after the Government confirmed that the network will be privatised within three

The sale, which is expected to raise between £600 million and £2 billion, was announced in the Commons by Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, who said it would give the capital a world-class

He told MPs that at least £1.2 billion of the proceeds would be ploughed back into the system to complete its modernisation by 2005. Privatisation would "deliver a higher quality Underground, at an affordable cust to passengers and at no extra cost to the

taxpayer," he said.

A White Paper giving de-tails of the sale will be pub-lished in the summer if the Convervatives win the election. Legislation paving the way for the sale is likely to be announced in the next Queen's Speech with privatisation completed in 2000 or 2001.

The options under consideration by the Government are: selling the entire network to a single buyer: a line by line sale: and a "Tubetrack" infrastructure authority with services franchised to private

operators. Senior sources at Railtrack said that merging the rail and underground networks could deliver huge benefits through lower costs and "through tickets" that passengers could use on trains

and the Underground. London Underground. which had £700 million cut from its Budget last year, was in danger of turning into "the rotten core" at the heart of a modernised railway system



unless it won private backing soon, the sources said. Virgin, which owns two rail

franchises and is a shareholder in Eurostar, said that it would take a close look at the Government's proposals. "The Piccadilly Line to Heathrow. in particular, would be of interest to us," a spokesman

Other companies interested in bidding for tube services

West Trains, and CGEA, the French transport group that runs two London commuter rail franchises. Both said vesterday that they would examine the detailed proposals when they are published. There is also certain to be at least one management and employee buyout bid. Ways would be sought to encourage employees and passengers to take a real stake in the system.

the minister said. Sir George said that there up the network", and that the London Travelcard, concessionary fares for the elderly and disabled, and existing levels of service would be safeguarded

There will also be an industry regulator to safeguard standards of services and fare increases would be limited to the level of inflation for four years after the sale. Average annual fare increases would be I per cent above inflation petere privatisation, Sir George said.

in public transport.

He won a key concession from the Treasury late on Monday night allowing Transport Ministers to keep most of the proceeds from the sale for investment in public transport. The first £1.2 billion will be ring-lenced for direct

The first Underground train at King William Street station, on the Metropolitan Line, which started in 1863 be cut and stations closed if operator and "a majority" of privatisation went ahead. At Prime Minister's Questions, would be used for investment Tony Blair said a key public asset was being sold at a fraction of its value "so that a However, London Underground sources said that the proposals left the system with few people can make a vastly a "desperate" funding shortinflated profit with no guaran-

age over the next three years. tee of a proper service for the They insisted that the modernisation of the network could have been completed in The world's first underground line was opened by the Metropolitan Railway on Janfive years rather than eight if LU had been left intact in the uary 10, 1863. It ran from public sector. Business leaders Paddington in west London to also expressed disappoint-ment that there had been no Farringdon Street in the City, and used steam-hauled trains attempt to address LU's short-

Simon Jenkins, page 18

National Express wins the ScotRail franchise

ways was completed yesterday with the award of the ScotRail franchise to National Express, the coach and rail group. John O'Brien, franchising director at the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising, said the deal would save impayers an average of £55 million a year in government subsidies.
"National Express is offer-

miles, but they will also be introducing a range of service enhancements, and new rolling stock within the next three years," he said. Fares will be pegged to inflation for the first three

years, then to the retail price indet minus one per cent. ScotRail has pledged to maintain existing services, including vulnerable rural

Schools chief attacks society's self-obsession

By John O'Leary, Education Editor

A SELF-OBSESSED society that has lost its traditional values and the work ethic is hampering efforts to raise educational standards, the Chief Inspector of Schools said

Chris Woodhead said schools were having to battle with negative aspects of the national culture. As well as "narcissistic preoccupation with self", these included a relativist approach to knowedge and a sentimental view

Mr Woodhead, giving his annual lecture in London, said that the best schools overcame this environment. But, with English teenagers' pass rates in mathematics, science and the national language less than half those of France and Germany, serious weaknesses

Mr Woodhead said that the grammar school where he had studied A levels had been built upon the Protestant work eththough I cannot remember it being referred to explicitly, was fortitude.

Thirty years on, we live in a society that neither mentions nor believes in anything resembling fortitude: a society characterised by what is a narcissistic preoccupation with self: by a desperate, but tempt to live in the present and only the present; by an in-creasing reliance on therapists and counsellors to bolster our from the emotional impact of the miseries which sooner or

later come our way." The national culture was "in certain key respects profoundly hostile" to schools' attempts raise standards, said Mr Woodhead, who is charge of the Office for Standards in Education. Too many teachers were refuctant to take a lead. Many still favoured non-directive teaching, including "respect for the opinions of young, children even when these

opinions are plain wrong' Jargon-ridden tracts from academics were partly to blame. longer I do this job, the more important I think it is to question the way in which academics and researchers mystify the business of teaching, and, indeed, children's

learning."
The Government's powers were limited, Mr Woodhead said. Its greatest contribution would be to define clearly what schools were expected to do and to devolve "real freedom" to them to meet the requirements, auditing their performance.

There is every reason to feel optimistic," Mr Woodhead concluded "For the first time in at least my career, there is a willingness to face up to the fact that too many children are failing to achieve their potential. The issue of standards is now at

Woman priest among 11 killed on roads in gales

BY LIN JENKINS

A WOMAN priest was among eleven people who died in road accidents as the fiercest gales for seven years wept across Britain.

The Rev Janet Shaw-Ham ilton was being driven by her friend Jennifer Tye, 63, to a Christian conference when their car exploded as it collided with a tanker on the M5 near Bristol, killing both women. The fire spread to a van, killing the driver, Den-Brown, 64, from Bridgwater, Somersel.

Mrs Shaw-Hamilton, 54, a mother of two adult children. served as a curate at All Saints' Church in Bromsgrove. Worcestershire, for five years until 1995. She was ordained a priest in 1994 and became a chaplain at Alexandra Hospital, Redditch.

an earlier accident on the M5 and a 26-year-old man was killed when his Ford Fiesta ran into a fallen tree at Pontnewydd, Torfaen. Three people died and two

were injured when two cars

collided head-on at King's

Lynn, Norfolk

Two drivers died after a head-on collision in driving rain in Derby and a man died after a lorry was blown over by strong winds in Scotland. Winds recorded at up to 90mph, coupled with driving rain, left some coastal towns impassable because of flooding. Ferry services were dis-rupted, buildings damaged and numerous trees brought

soldiers from the King's Troop Royal Horse thermia, with one in a poor condition, after they went missing during a training exercise on Dartmoor. More than a hundred volunteers spent four hours combine moorland for the men as an RAF search and rescue heliopter led the hunt.

A cargo ferry with a crew of was stranded on a sandbank 15 miles off Cromer, Norfolk in force eight gales before being refloated on the morning tide.

Three engineers stranded for 13 days on the Dubh Artach lighthouse, who were running out of food, were rescued by a Royal Navy helicopter. They were winch-ed to safety after their belicopter was unable to land.

Photograph, page 24

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outbrea to reope

Butcher' Legal barriers will prevent apocalypse now, if not later in E. Col. Legal barriers will prevent apocalypse now, if not later understandable, though still tendency one American bio sthirist westerday deplored



Rotbiat: worried about

British Nobel Peace Prize winner, called yesterday for done in this field of genetic an international ethical committee to control cloning and other developments in

The physicist, who won his he worried that other scientiftion "maybe more readily available even than nuclear

"Genetic engineering is quite a possible area because of these dreadful developments that are taking place there," Professor Rothlat said. "You cannot foresee what engineering, that something of a threat to humankind may

Other scientists do not take such an apocalyptic view, as prize after campaigning for the techniques used to clone years against nuclear weap sheep cannot be applied to ons, said on BBC Radio that ing British law. The question is not an ethical but a legal

> The same is not true every where in the world, but in spite of the anxieties expressed every time cloning hits the headlines, the motivaings is difficult to identify. Fiction - such as Aldous 'Huxley's Brave New World,



Nigel Hawkes surveys the variety of expert reaction to cloning, a topic deeply distorted in the popular understanding by the lurid nightmares of science fiction

way of creating an army of identical drones or duplicate copies of a dictator. What is overlooked is whether an army of identical people would function well, or whether, say, a Hitler clone without Hitler's background would hold Nazi views.

Neither is self-evident. Teams of people function well

different qualities to bear on a problem, not identical ones. And if breeding alone could produce a master race, what became of the blond Aryans that the Nazis bred in experiments that still send a shiver down the spine?

We have had techniques of animal breeding for at least a century but have not used them in human reproduction because they are ethically

reason to believe that such constraints will crumble because somebody has developed a better breeding method. A more genuine ethical dilemma would arise in the case of a child that has leukacmia and needs a bone marrow transplant, but has no matched donor. A cloned cell taken from the child to create a duplicate would pro-

vide a perfect match. Such a procedure would be illegal in Britain but it is at least possible to have mixed feelings about it. After all, both the original child and the clone would survive the operation. Similarly, the wish of parents to produce a copy of a much-loved child who had died in an accident would be

illegal. Using clones to generate organs for transplant offends against the notion that we should not use human beings as a means to an end. Even raising pigs for this purpose raises some people's hackles. And cloning somebody for a specific purpose -"genetic bondage" - would almost certainly offend

against slavery laws. The trouble with cloning is that science fiction has had too long a free run, filling our minds with outlandish and horrible ideas that not only make little sense but are unlikely to happen because they would require the active participation of human beings. The temptation is to rush into hasty judgments, a

ethicist yesterday deplored. "As humans we simply don't know how to think about this," said Professor Michael Shapiro of the University of Southern California. "I don't think there's anything inherently wrong with asexual reproduction.

Lord Winston, the Labour peer, agrees that there is no need for panic. He said yesterday that there was no "massive urgency" for a debate into cloning as there was "absolutely no possibility whatsoever that human beings could he cloned in the near future". As the law prevented this kind of technology being applied to human beings, there was no need for urgent debate, he

Human copies possible, says clone team's leader

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

centre of a successful experiment to clone a sheep with DNA taken from an adult animal said yesterday that the same techniques could possibly be used on human beings. Dr lan Wilmut, the leader of the research team at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, added, however, that there were "enormous technical and practical difficulties and it would be socially unacc-

Another of the scientists at the centre of the groundbreaking research revealed he had difficulty persuading his. wife and 14-year-old son of the ethical propriety of what he was doing in producing Dolly. the cloned sheep. Dr Alan Colman, the research director at PPL, the company that worked with the Roslin Institute on the project, said it was

THE British scientists at the had discussed the ethical implications amongst themselves before deciding to go ahead, he said, "I also discussed it with my wife. She was quite

"She was worried about the human aspect, the possibility that some tinpot dictator somewhere in the world might make use of the technology to clone himself. Practically speaking that would be ex-ceedingly difficult, but it remains a possibility."

Asked if he had persuaded his wife of the ethical propriety of what he was doing. Dr Colman said: "I'm not absolutely sure I did." He said his son, whom he did not wish to name, had also asked him questions echoing his wife's

Dr Colman said he had felt the burden of keeping such an exciting project secret for seven months but did not have protein in her milk which could eventually be used to

Dr Ian Wilmut spoke of enormous difficulties

work he was doing. "When you work in this sort of field using animals you face your own Hades. Some people would not be prepared to do this type of work. Everyone reaches their own decision."

The scientists' research is published in Nature tomorrow. Dr Colman said the ultimate aim of the research was to get medical products to patients more quickly.

PPL is developing treat-ments for cystic fibrosis sufferers and haemophiliacs and estimate that using cloned animals will cut up to two years off the research process.

For the time being Dolly the Dorset Finn, who was yesterday shown to the world's media, will remain a one-off. "We don't have plans to clone another adult sheep," Dr Colman said. "We are now taking a break. We don't have a monopoly of wisdom here in

Dolly was named after the country singer Dolly Parton. her creators said, because she was developed by taking cells from the mammary tissue of an adult sheep and transfering them to an egg which has had its nucleus removed. Until she was born the cloning work had been

Institute using embryonic cells only.

Next to Dolly yesterday as she was shown off to the world. were Megan and Morag, who hit the headlines a year ago as embryonically cloned lambs. At least one and probably both

carried out by the Roslin

are now pregnant.

Dr Ron James, the managing director of PPL, said work would soon be carried out on cows and pigs. The company has already developed a

on the use of genetic science to prevent the creation of "mon-

Philippe Vasseur, the French Agriculture Minister,

speculated that the advance

might be abused: "Even if

countries have rigorous rules

on the use of science, tomor-

row someone could well in-

vent a chicken with six legs."

The Agriculture Minister

vowed that the Government

would take all necessary mea-sures to protect public health. Centrist MP Christine. Boutin, a member of the

ruling coalition, tabled a mo-

tion calling for an outright ban

on all experiments involving

"cloning and chimeras hybrid

organisms made of genetically

different tissues)". French law forbids human embryonic

experimentation" but does not

"We cannot allow the clon-

ing of a human being," said

Jürgen Rüttgers, the German

research minister. All human

cloning experiments came under the general ban on genetic manipulation set out

in the 1990 embryo protection

law. The German constitution

calls for respect for the "digni-

use the word "cloning".

strosities of nature".



Cloned Dolly basks in media attention at the Institute. It was "frightening science", said a scientist on the project

Regulations are relatively liberal

Britain are among the most sophisticated in the world. Although tighter than in the United States they are more liberal than most of Europe.

Cloning . experiments in-

volving humans are forbidden under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990. Certain other research on embryos is permitted under the act, after pioneering work by the in 1984. Clinics wanting to do research or offer treatment which involves keeping embryos outside the womb must obtain a licence from the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, Most other European countries

ban embryo research. Gene therapy — inserting genes into patients with in-herited conditions such as

in cotland, President Clinton has ordered an American

panel of experts to review the

He has asked his National

Bioethics Advisory Commis-

sion — composed of lawyers, doctors, biologists, theolo-

gians and philosophers - to report back to him within

three months with recommen-

dations on possible federal

Unlike Britain, human clon-

ing has not been forbidden or

regulated by law in the United

States. But Mr Clinton and

Congress have denied govern-

ment funds for human em-

The ramifications of cloning

humans has already caught

the attention of American

lawyers. John Robertson, Pro-

fessor of Law at the University

of Texas, envisaged a scenario

person from whom he or she

was produced on the ground

that they had been denied a

basic right to be unique.

in which a cloned person could grow up to sue the older

bryo research.

actions to prevent abuse.

trish care

What play

THE laws governing re-but genetic manipulation of search on human embryos in embryos to eliminate the

condition from future generations, achieving a cure, is not. It is felt that too little is known about the long-term effects of altering an individnal's genetic inheritance to allow such experiments.

Animal cloning is permit-ted under British law. All experiments are controlled by the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. This speci-fies that the benefits likely to accrue from research must outweigh any adverse effects on the animals involved. Scientists wanting to con-

duct animal experiments have to get from the Home Office a personal licence and a project licence for each experiment. It was on this basis that scientists at the Roslin Institute could go ahead with their experiments, which were also approved by the institute's ethics committee.

Clinton acts swiftly to avert

abuse of breakthrough

BY IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

said the procedure should be

banned. Six per cent said they would like to be cloned.

The Netherlands has in the

pipeline two Bills to ban the

A Bill on the use of human egg cells and embryos clearly

forbids cloning and sets strict

guidelines for scientific experi-

ments with human cells. It

PERMIT

become law.

Certainly the idea of human sheep cloning, as the Govern-

WORLD :

could take more than a year to

The Bill on biotechnological

experiments with animals,

which is due to become law in

a few months, does not ban

cloning outright. However, experiments such as the one in

Scotland would have to be

approved by an ethical

French politicians, scien-

tists and the media reacted

with consternation yesterday

to the British breakthrough in

cloning is unpopular among ment promised tight controls ty of all human beings".

cloning of humans and greatly restrict the genetic manipula-

tion of animal cells.

REACTING swiftly to the Americans in a poll conduct-successful cloning of a sheep ed by ABC News, 87 per cent

feed very premature infants whose mothers cannot The work of the Edinburgh

scientists has been criticised by Dr Patrick Dixon, author of The Genetic Revolution, who said they had delayed telling the world about their work and that there was no way of knowing how far advanced current research by them and others was. Dr Dixon said: "The lesson

of history is that whatever can be done scientifically will be done by someone, somewhere at some time, especially when laws differ so widely from country to country." He said he had already had one person contact him to volunteer for human cloning experiments.

Dr James replied: "There has been no attempt to keep this work secret. It has not Scottish/British world-leading scientific research. There has been no-one out there in

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IN THE TIMES



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ANIMAL PASSIONS

How animal prints have hit the high street

American feminist gives 49th Reith Lecture

'Colour blindness' fails to camouflage racism

By CAROL MIDGLEY AND STEPHEN FARRELL

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, the black American feminist, delivering the Reith Lecture on racism last night, argued that the liberal idea that "colour does not matter" was funda-

Professor Williams, the 49th Reith lecturer, said that wellintentioned liberals could not assume that because people were taught not to be racist. racism did not exist. It was part of the "facile innocence" of the three wise monkeys who saw, heard and spoke no evil.

She cited the example of her four-year-old adopted son. Peter, whose teachers assured her was colour blind. Each time he was asked the colour of grass he replied: "I don't know", or "It doesn't matter". After seeking medical advice, Professor Williams discovered his eyesight was perfect. "It turned out my son did not misidentify colour, he resisted identifying colour at all," she said. "Well-meaning teachers at his predominantly white school had repeatedly assured their charges that colour makes no difference."

Professor Williams, 45, said the very reason the teachers said this proved that colour

Ms Williams, professor of law at Columbia University, New York, could have been said to have lived up to her reputation for the use of impenetrable psychobabble.

"This association of the greenness of grass making no difference was such a preco-ciously cynical retort," she said of her son, "that I began to suspect some social complication in which he was some-

This anxiety redefinied as deficiency suggests to me that it may be illustrative of the way in which the liberal idea of colour blindness is too often compounded. That is to say the very notion of blindness ideological confusion at best and denial at its very worst."

She went on: "Certainly the

great philosophical inspiring quandary of my life is that despite the multiculturalism of my heritage and profundity of my commitment to the notion of the 'us-ness' of us all, I have little room but to negotiate most of my daily lived encounters as one of them. How alien this sounds

the split without, the split

Professor Williams, the great great granddaughter of a black slave impregnated by her white slave master at the age of 13, is only the fourth woman to have been invited to deliver the Reith Lecture, and the third in four years.

American academics are critical of her "narrativist" style of personal anecdote, claiming it lacks academic rigour. Abby Thernstrom, a

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Williams: criticised for narrativist" style

Harvard-educated author on racial politics, said: "She is guilty of intellectual fraud by implying that we still have a caste society in the US. She is muddled and incoherent so I hope her lectures do not make

a big splash," Randall Kennedy, a black Harvard law professor, said: Facts are important and getting data is important. You can only go so far on the basis of anecdote and memoir."

Professor Williams was de-fended by J. Woodford Howard, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at John Hopkins University, Baltimore.

thinker who simply does what is politically correct, she will quite commonly dissent from what is considered the ortho-

He added: "She narrates stories of her own personal life as distinct from a social scientist style. It is a very powerful method which is now coming into vogue. In that she is shead of the game." Speaking of the tendency to "colour blindness" in today's

society, Professor Williams said: This tension between material conditions and what one is cultured to see or not to see, the dilemma of the Em-peror's New Clothes, as I call it, is a tension faced by any society riven by bitter histories of opposed hierarchy."

She added: "Hail the spirit

of our infallibly peaceful coexistence, hail our common fate, even as young white men are forming their own private militias, complete with grenade launchers, and one in three young black men are in

jail or on probation." The BBC denied that it had bowed to political correctness in selecting Ms Williams. A spokeswoman said she had been chosen in the usual way: Radio 4 producers were asked to submit suggested names to Anne Winder, head of features. The final decision was taken by the then controller of Radio 4, Michael Green.



Schoolgirl pair to be freed a year after victim's death

THE parents of a 12-year-old girl kicked to death by two schoolgirls wept yesterday on learning that her attackers would be released on the first anniversary of her death.

John and Ellen Allen were

at the Court of Appeal to hear an application by the Attor-ney-General to increase the two-year detention imposed on the girls, aged 12 and 13 at the time of the attack, by Nottingham Crown Court last year. They had admitted the manslaughter of Louise Allen, who died from a brain haemorrhage after being kicked in the head at a funfair in Corby, Nottinghamshire, as other schoolgirls gathered to watch.

Yesterday, three appeal judges, led by the Lord Chief Justice Lord, Bingham of Comhill, rejected the Attorney-General's submission that the sentence was unduly lenient and said he could not justify the court increasing it. The two attackers, now aged 13 and 14, will be released on April 30, exactly a year after the death of their victim.

The younger of the girls in the dock, who had been sobbing, smiled as she was led out by two care workers and a woman security guard. Out-



Louise: kicked to death by two schoolgirls

side court, the decision was condemned by Mr and Mrs Allen and other members of Louise's family, who had travelled from Corby.

Mrs Allen said: "It is absolutely terrible. We've done all we can for Louise. We have to lay her to rest now." She said she had to leave court after a few minutes because she could not listen anymore. "I am sick and tired of listening to how these two girls are ideal, law-abiding." lovely children. They are not.

away." Mr Allen said: "I am bitterly disappointed. We didn't really expect any extra, but we hoped deep down that they would get some more. No long enough for them. They got two years and they are not even going to be serving two

At their trial last year, the two girls, who cannot be named, were said by Mr Justice Hidden to have inflicted wicked violence resulting in the totally unnecessary death of that young girl". Louise had intervened when

the 12-year-old girl started a fight with one of her closest friends but was pulled away by the 13-year-old and kicked in the chest. She was then fatally kicked in the head while lying on the ground. The court was told that the blow was an "unlucky chance" and in most cases would have caused only minor injury.

Lord Bingham said the sentence was in the "appropriate bracket and that the trial judge had taken into account the loss to the victim's family and the public attitude to that type of offence. "It seems fair to assume that neither contemplated the appalling circum-stances to which their action gave rise," he said.

Renaissance book vanishes from Oxford college library

By Damian Whitworth

transform it into a collection

of loose plates so it is not recognised." He added:

THE disappearance of a rare Renaissance geography book from the library of an Oxford college is being investigated

by police.
Stock checks at The
Queen's College library revealed that Francesco Berlinghieri's Geographia, which was published in Florence in 1480 and is valued at up to £50,000, was missing. It may have disappeared at any time during the past two years,

renewing concerns about sec-urity at libraries.

John Blair, librarian at Queen's, said the book was especially valuable because it featured maps printed from metal plates. "It is a very rare early geography book. It is interesting because it is a very early example of printed maps." He declined to discuss details of the book's storage or

when it had disappeared. In December 1995, Simon Heighes, a former Queen's and Oriel College don, was jailed for two years after he admitted stealing 78 rare books and manuscripts from colleges in London and Oxford. Dr Heighes, who lec-tured in baroque music and was also a Radio 3 presenter, stole books over a four-year

He hid them under his bed before selling them to Blackwell's bookshop and Sotheby's, claiming they were part of his grandfather's life-long collection.

Among the 33-year-old's thefts was the first edition of Sir Isaac Newton's Principia Mathematica, worth £67,500. which was taken from Christ Church's library. It was traced to America after it had been sold by Sotheby's, Books were also stolen from The Queen's

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do happen." has been reported should be A spokesman for the university said this was a college extremely difficult. But Nicholas Poole-Wilson, managing director of Bernard Quaritch, matter but added: "It's a difficult issue. The problem is the London book dealer, said that the university is a place of the provenance of a book could be disguised. learning and it is very important that books are freely The ugly thing that can happen is that the book can be available and we would be rightly criticised if all our chopped up and sold in pieces. The thief knows he can

books were locked away. "But the Bodleian does take great steps to make sure

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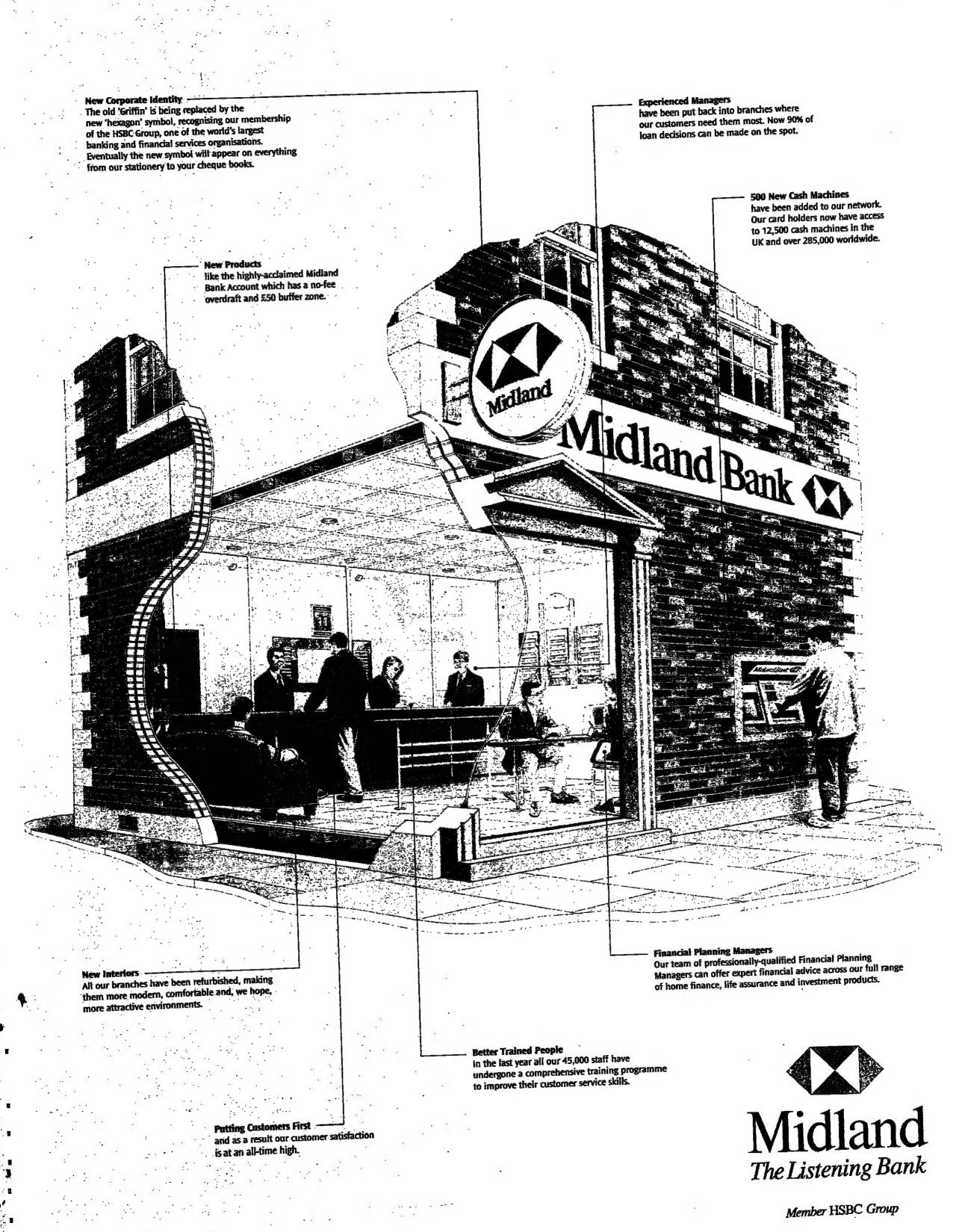
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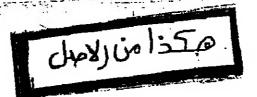


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Shades of Thatcher would haunt No 10 under Blair

IN office, Tony Blair would seek to re- leadership. Mr Blair has strong beliefs establish the power and control that and intends to impress them on White-Margaret Thatcher wielded over the hall - unlike Mr Major, whose grip on government machine. He wants to ensure clear and strong leadership, with Downing Street firmly in the driving seat

on all matters of government business. The key to his success would be a strong team in No 10 which could keep check on Whitehall departments and ensure that any awkward ministers toed the line. Plum posts would be almost certain to go to Jonathan Powell, his chief of staff. Alastair Campbell, his press secretary and David Milliband, current-

ly his policy adviser. In Opposition, Mr Blair has been accused of turning his private office into a kitchen Cabinet, Many Labour MPs are critical, but respect the strength of his

the Government machine has frequently

Instead, the Labour leader expects Downing Street under his premiership to give out clear signals to the rest of Whitehall. He and his key appointees intend to achieve this by beefing up the political numbers at Downing Street. Otherwise, as is customary, Mr Blair would work with Mr Major's senior

officials, who would take pains to ensure there was a smooth handover. He would be expected to rely enormously on Alex Allan, the Prime Minister's principal private secretary, and Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary. Their job is to assist a new Prime



Tony Blair believes the key to success in office would be his control of the levers of power. Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor, examines how Labour would organise its first government for 18 years

Minister and offer advice. Sir Robin is to retire next year anyway and he would be able to advise Mr Blair on a successor. Similarly, Mr Allan would normally be expected to move back to the Treasury in a senior post.

They would be counter-balanced by the strengthened political presence at the centre of Mr Powell, tipped to take on the job of chief of staff; the bright policy adviser, Mr Milliband, and Mr Blair's shrewd press secretary and friend Mr Campbell,

Mr Blair's approach is described in Labour circles as "strategic leadership". by which they mean the firm smack of a Prime Minister in control. His team have recognised that an incoming Labour government must make an immediate ression on the Whitehall machine,

otherwise the sheer weight of inertia and everyday business will deflect them from

Mr Blair and his aides have therefore spent considerable time selecting priorities for government. The deliberations have, however, been difficult for the leader. He has insisted to his staff that his priority is to secure a general election victory and he does not wish to be accused of presumption or complacency by getting embroiled in detailed plans for

He is so sensitive to accusations of taking the result for granted, and so irritated when his colleagues discuss possible life at No 10, that he has nstructed his press office to stall questions about it from journalists. Nevertheless, political realities dictate that his

office has had to prepare a programme for government. It has examined the present structures and methods at No 10 and, Whitehall and has decided there must be much more of a strategic overview on all business from Downing Street. The plans are contained in a document known as a Day One Brief* which sets out the priorities on winning the election; the ideas for changing ministries; and the outline of a Budget and the first legislative programme to

form the Queen's Speech. Officials at the Cabinet Office under David Wilkinson, head of the machinery of government unit, are already working on some of these plans in preparation for a possible Labour victory.

Leading article, page 19

Policy head would need one eye on second term

appointments Mr Blair would have to make is the head of his policy unit. He wants somehudy inside Downing Street who would run a small team to provide independent advice and to work on long-term policy issues. It is one of the most senior posts in government and the holder would take on the rank of permanent secretary with a salary between £90,000 and £150,000.

The policy unit has up to nine staff and is based in a cluster of tiny second floor rooms at No IO. Its head has Minister, briefs him, prepares him for Cabinet committees, has access to key Government papers and may even be invited to sit in at a Cabinet

meeting. He. or she, may often be asked to resolve conflicts in Whitehall and broker deals between ministers and their

Mr Blair would like to attract a senior figure from the private sector or academe in the mould of Lord Rothschild. a former M15 officer and director of research at Shell, worked for Edward

accept, however, that it might be difficult to tempt someone from a top corporate job into public office. Someone from the business world might be-come exasperated with the slow pace of government and would be unfamiliar with Whitehall's subtle ways.

The name of John Birt Director-General of the BBC, has been touted in Labour circles for the job. Mr Birt. however, does not want it and has just signed a new fouryear contract.

The personality of the head of the policy unit - and their rapport with the Prime Minister - largely determines the role. Mr Blair would want somebody who could help him deliver a second term in office, somebody with an eye for the future and a second party manifesto. He is determined that the policy unit head would concentrate on longterm forecasting and not become embroiled in crisis management

Lord Donoughue headed and although he wanted to concentrate on longer-term ideas he was frequently side-



tracked. He recalls an intense two-week period producing a draft White Paper on incomes policy to counter a Treasury paper for a statutory incomes policy. His paper formed the basis for the 1975 incomes

policy.
When Margaret Thatcher
Token Hockyns appointed Sir John Hoskyns to the post in her first term she wanted her own personal adviser. His task was to concentrate on two issues — curbing union power.

After he left, the unit expanded and John Redwood

was able to drum up longterm policy initiatives, even developing the Government's privatisation programme, which Mrs Thatcher at first When Mr Major was electwas very reluctant to pursue.

the future cost of pensions which led to the reform of the state earnings-related pensions scheme and the growth in portable personal pensions. By her final term Mrs

Thatcher wanted a different Griffiths, now Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, to reinforce the ethical dimension of govern-

He also wrote a paper about

ment policy. He was also charged with the overhaul of

ed leader of the Conservative Party he had no time to prepare for the job. He asked the economic journalist Sarah Hogg, now Baroness Hogg, to run the unit but it was forced into taking on a firefighting role to help the Prime Minister through crisis after crisis.

Recently, under Norman consultant, the unit has worked hard exploring future

EXPERTS FOR PLANNING

Every Whitehall department would have its own minipolicy unit under Labour to explore options for reforms with Ministers. Experts in subjects would be brought in to work alongside officials. There would be about three people in each team — a mixture of academics, journalists and civil servants. They would report to a Cabinet Minister and assist in any crisis, but they would also keep in contact with the No 10 policy unit.

One Labour source said: "We want senior, serious,

grown-up people for these jobs, people who know about their subject." Most Whitehall department already have a longer-term planning section but it is often remote from the politicians. These are intended to focus Ministers' attention on the need to think about future policy ideas.

Powerful new-style watchdog would be PM's ears

A NEW role of chief of staff at No 10 might be set up by Tony Blair to keep tabs on the activities of every office in the building. The holder of the position would be the Prime Minister's eyes and ears and the link between civil servants and the political staff.

Margaret Thatcher tried something similar, although her appointee, Sir David Wolfson, did not stay long at Downing Street and was nev-er an integral part of the machine. Jonathan Powell, chief of staff in Mr Blair's Opposition office, is tipped for watchers consider the post a non-role and believe Mr Powell would be a better head of

A key role would be to smooth away tensions or rifts between the Prime Minister's private office and the political staff. The chief would have to be in close touch with the political and press secretaries as well as the Prime Minister's principal private secretary. The job would also mean working closely with the Cabi-net Secretary and keeping a close eye on committees and their agendas.

David Hunt, asked to invesrigate the idea of a chief of staff for John Major, came down against the idea. He said the key co-ordination should be between the Cabinet Office and Downing Street, rather than between the various parts of No 10.

In an internal paper he suggested instead that a senior politician with a clear strategy and strength of character should be appointed as a powerful troubleshooter and co-ordinator. His paper led to the appointment of Michael Heseltine as Deputy Prime Minister, one of the most powerful offices in Whitehall.

Mr Heseltine is the Government's troubleshooter and sits at the hub of the machine. His pivotal role is chairing the daily strategy committee, which co-ordinates the presentation of policy. It brings together a number of Cabinet Ministers, senior Whitehall officials and party aides to discuss the day's agenda.

Under Labour it is thought John Prescott would assume the title but not the responsibility for chairing key Cabinet committees. Labour politicians argue that, with a powerful Prime Minister in Downing Street, there would be no need for such a vehicle.

There is also a view that Mr Blair would prefer smaller strategy meetings and he is known to want a strong team of personal political advisers to deal with day-to-day issues as well as to keep a firm rein

No-nonsense press chief likely to shake up briefings

THE appointment of Alastair House of Commons would be Campbell as the Downing Street press secretary would signal a no-nonsense style in

dealings with the media.

Mr Campbell's strength is that he knows Mr Blair so well that he can second-guess his views and mood on a range of issues. He is also adept at adding the political spin and would work closely with the political secretary and staff brought in by Mr Blair.

Downing Street and at the

as well-attended as the days when Sir Bernard Ingham, Thatcher, used colourful lan-guage to describe her latest bugbear. Although he was a civil servant, Sir Bernard became so close to Mrs Thatcher that reporters knew he was speaking on her behalf.

A return to this style would delight political journalists who, under John Major, have experienced a succession of press secretaries in the more

POLICY TASK FORCES

Better co-ordination is planned between Ministers and departments on key issues. One idea is for the creation of small units with an official from each Whitehall department. They would be able to take an overview on a particular policy, such as youth or the family. Labour frontbenchers have been impressed by the success of the drugs unit, based in the Cabinet Office and staffed by officials from the Home Office, Education and Health.

Instead of setting up lengthy Royal Commis discuss difficult long term problems for Government, Mr Blair might invite a mixture of politicians, business lawyers and academics to examine such large issues as the minimum wage or welfare reform. They would work together as a task force and report to him. ed Treasury Minister at the British Embassy in Washington. Jonathan Haslam, Mr Major's present press secretary, from the Government Information Service, is expected to quit Whitehall for the private sector if there were a Labour victory. As well as heading the the

traditional and cautious gov-ernment mould, such as Gus

O'Donnell, the Treasury offi-

cial who has just been appoint-

official Downing Street press office. Mr Campbell would also liaise with government information officers. It is not yet clear how the office would function but, even though some in Whitehall have dubbed it "the double-headed monster", they are convinced it could work.

The weekly meeting of senior Whitehall press officers would be expected to gain new status under the chairmanship of Mr Campbell. Under Sir Bernard, government directors of information rarely missed a meeting, but its importance has dwindled and only chief press officers now

on the network of advisers

TROUBLE

AT

THE

BANK.

The property

Edition of the

Building work would be needed to get Downing Street into the family way

IF the Blair family move into No i0 the top floor will echo to the sound of children for the first time since Harold Macmillan's grandchildren had the run of it during his tenure, which ended in 1963.

No 10 is not an ideal home for a young family with three lively children, Euan, 13, Nicholas, 11 and Kathryn, 8 Mr Blair would be the first incumbent with children since Clement Attlee moved out in 1951. Attlee managed to make a home for his family by taking over some of the servants' quarters on the top floor to make extra bedrooms. But the Majors' flat at the top of the house is open plan and comprises a series of rooms along a narrow corridor adjacent to other offices inside Downing

Occasionally, the Majors have even been known to use the state drawing room, the



Macmillan's grandchildren were welcome at No 10

White Room, as an alternative sitting room. Labour aides have, however, identified a number of rooms which could be used to extend Mr Major's two-bedroom flat with sitting room and tiny kitchen. There are two or three little-used computer training rooms alongside the flat, as well as a

few bedrooms sometimes used by staff

The main problem would be to ensure privacy for the Blairs. One Whitehall source said it would be possible to have a special door put in to No 10 to section off the private accommodation. The expectation is that if Mr Blair won the

formally move in until the accommodation was ready. But the building can be made into a home.

Macmillan's grandson. Lord Stockton, recalled how he was banned by his grandmother from playing hopscotch with the policeman in the black-and-white-tiled half at No 10. "She wanted to make the job tolerable and so insisted that it should be treated like a family house. But even she thought it was too much to see the policeman playing with me when Cabinet Ministers and other visitors were arriving at the door."

At a party, he recalls, he and his cousins ended up doing the conga in the basement and, because all the corridors interconnected, they ended up in the Ministry of Defence building on the other side of Whitehall.

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Princess's designer dresses go on show before auction

By JOANNA BALL

SOME of the 80 designer dresses belonging to Diana, Princess of Wales, which are to be sold at auction were displayed at Christie's in London vesterday.

London yesterday.

Proceeds of the sale, in New York on June 25, will go to the Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund and the Aids Crisis Trust, as well as American cancer and Aids charities.

The auction, which Christie's confirmed was the idea of Prince William, is expected to raise £4 million and will include some of the Princess's most famous dresses, by British designers such as Catherine Walker, Zandra Rhodes and Bruce Oldfield.

A statement from the Princestal.

A statement from the Princess said: "I am extremely happy to have this wonderful opportunity to raise money for charities devoted to the care of cancer and Aids sufferers both here in the United Kingdom and America. It goes without saying that I am also delighted that these dresses, which gave me so much pleasure, may be enjoyed by others."

Watchdog

Wouldbe

PM's ear

Most of the dresses, which range from size 8 to 12, were worn at royal and state occasions between 1981 and 1996. The entire collection will go on view at Christie's in London between June 2 and June 6 before being shipped to New York to the auction.

They include an ivory silk crèpe evening dress and jacket embroidered with simulated pearls worn at a lashion awards ceremony in 1989 at the Albert Hall in London and designed by Catherine Walker, whose label appears most often in the collection.

The collection, entitled "Dresses", also features a Victor Edelstein strapless oyster satin dress worn at the Elysée Palace in 1981; a long evening dress of pink wild silk with an embroidered jacket by Catherine Walker, worn to private receptions in India in 1992; a sari-like evening dress of white silk chiffon by Hartnell, worn to the ballet in Brazil; a long strapless evening dress of midnight blue silk net, by Murray Arbeid, worn at a party given by King Constantine of Greece at







A black crêpe dinner dress by Catherine Walker, another Walker dress outside Christie's yesterday, and an Edelstein dress worn to a state dinner with President Mitterrand

Claridge's in 1986; a long evening dress and tail coat of burgundy velvet by Catherine Walker worn in Korea in 1992 and to film premieres. The Princess's wedding dress will not be sold.

Christopher Balfour, chairman of Christie's Europe, said the Princess had said that the idea for the sale had come

from Prince William. "I imagine the idea came from seeing all these beautiful dresses — I think it's rather sweet."

res. The insight into royal dressing and of the taste of the young r., chair- ope, said inat the world." Mr Balfour said. He added that the Princess had

chosen the dresses to be auctioned and that there were no reserve prices.

Several charity events are being organised to publicise the sale and the Princess is expected to attend at least one fashion function in London.

Mr Balfour declined to speculate on how much the sale might raise. "It is unquantifi-

able. These sorts of sales are unique. You just can't estimate how much money people will be prepared to pay," he said. "These dresses have a sort of

magic about them."

Full details of the collection are being kept secret until the catalogue is published in May, but staff said it contained some dresses never seen in

public because they had been worn at private parties.

Meredith Etherington-Smith, creative marketing director at Christie's, said: "The Princess has huge numbers of admirers all over the world who are fascinated by her, and I think museums will be very interested in bidding." Asked

how the Princess would feel if

her dresses were bought by cabaret artistes or transvestites, Ms Etherington-Smith said: "I suspect she would be happy as long as they enjoyed them."

The auction is being

The auction is being organised on a non-profit-making basis by Christie's, which emphasised that all the proceeds would go to charity.

Bad taste king takes trash off the streets

By GRACE BRADBERRY STYLE EDITOR

BOOB tubes, scarlet knickers and black lace leggings were rehabilitated yesterday as one of London's most modish designers put Soho trash fashion on the catwalk.

Roland Mouret, a Frenchman who designs under the label People Corporation, turned the basement of Holborn's Leisure Lounge night-club into a sleazy dive. Mouret, 36, moved here five years ago, believing the French would not understand his had-taste style. The furry leg warmers with black stilettos and the bibs, printed with "Amour", which substitrate for shirts, were a hit at London Fashion Week. As proof of the label's cachet. American actress Chioe Sevigny, recently featured on the magazine and hailed as one of the "coolest" people of the moment, modelled in the show. Mouret said: "It's

about the sort of people I love. Their lives are a bit trashy and nasty on the outside, but they're lovely people inside."

Highlights of the collection were a shaggy

highlights of the collection were a shaggy black cape and tiny dresses that barely skimmed the thigh, worn with blue cowboy boots. Mouret described the look as "Victorian punk".

Fashion, page 16 Style, page 17

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Chancellor Brown unlikely to avoid tax and spending rises

Dublic spending and taxes will be higher under a Blair than a re-elected Major government, but the increases will almost certainly be smaller than those recorded since 1992. That is obviously merely a best guess. informed I hope, but nearer the mark than either Gordon Brown's Iron Chancellor stance or the Tories' allegations about big rises in spending under Labour.

Conservative Central Office yesterday played down earlier claims that Labour pledges would add £30 billion to spending by the fifth year of a Parliament. This figure is widely regarded as implausible

and, while not abandoning it, Kenneth Clarke yesterday more realistically focused on Mr Brown's pledge to stick to existing spending plans, in detail for the coming financial year, and in aggregate for the year after. This apart from the employment package financed by the windfall levy on the utilities.

The Chancellor's claim of a E12.4 billion black hole over two years looks well over the top, partly because of the treatment of the windfall levy. However, the Tories are now attacking Labour where it is vulnerable since the party has opposed many of the

PROPERTY ! ON POLITICS

Government's measures to hold down total spending. Mr Clarke gave examples or privatisation, changes in lone parent benefits and the private finance initiative. However, because of time lags, this would make virtually no difference in the coming year. The Tories also argue that Labour is guilty of accounting errors in failing to recognise that the release of local authority receipts for house building, the extension of student loans and school repairs

financed by banks would all add necessary to achieve Labour's to public spending and borrowing. Labour would also face strong pressures to increase

عركذا من رلامل

spending on health and education. I have no doubt of Mr Brown's determination to hold down spending, and he may succeed in the short term. But over a full Parliament it will be hard to avoid increases. In his new What Labour Can Do. Richard Layard of the London School of Economics argues that there is no case for reducing public spending, currently over 41 per cent of national income, to below 40 per cent and a slightly higher figure may be

social objectives.

By contrast, John Major this week reaffirmed his commitment to reducing spending below 40 per cent and keeping it there. This does not mean aiming for 30 per cent since Mr Major's advisers specifically reject the radical options for comprehensive educa-tion vouchers and private insurance in health and social security advocated by some on the Tory Right. They favour a gradualist approach including a shift to private financing, where possible, as in higher education. Given the aim of producing a balanced

budget by the end of the century. this might involve reducing the spending share to, say, 37 to 38 per cent over the next few years, depending on the state of the economy. So even on the probably over-optimistic assumption that a re-elected Major Government suc-ceeded in holding down spending. the gap with Labour plans might be about 3 per cent or so of national income. This is a sizeable sum but less than the five-point

half of the 1990s. The Downing Street Policy Unit has devised a chart-showing public spending as a percentage of

rise under the Tories in the first

pared with France, Germany and Italy. The two lines are similar from the mid-1960s until the mid-1970s, then start to diverge and are now roughly ten points apart. The implication is that this is the gain from Tory policies — though the gap started under Labour in the late 1970s — and that a Blair government would raise the spending share towards the contimental share. Voters do face a choice, but it is much narrower than between British and continental levels of spending and tax.

PETER RIDDELL

patient

writer's

Bafta

bonanza

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Highest paid MPs declare earnings of £50,000 plus

AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE highest earners in the House of Commons are making as much money from outside interests as last year. despite a downward trend in the total amount of income

The total income disclosed in the second register of mem-bers' interests has fallen by more than £300,000. However, the figures represent only a fraction of the total earnings from outside

New rules drawn up two years ago after the cash-for-questions affair have forced MPs to declare earnings from outside work if it is related to their Commons position. Several MPs earn six-figure sums through directorships and other outside work that is not connected with the Commons

Although some MPs go into minute detail, several refuse to disclose income from long lists of outside employers on the ground that it is not directly related to their position as an MP. Among the most prominent are Sir Edward Heath, Norman Lamont, David Mellor and Kenneth Baker.

Roy Hattersley, Labour's former deputy leader, leads the list again this year with his

Roy Hattersley, Lab £110,000 Robert Atkins, C £65,000 Harold Elletson, C 960,000 Sir Dudley Smith, C £55,000 Paul Marland, C Jack Aspinwall, C 255,000 John Greenway, C £50,000 Alun Michael,* Leb £50,000 Keith Hampson, C £46,000 Patrick Nicholls, C £46,000 *eamings spent entirely on staff and office expenses

£110,000 earnings from jour-nalism, including up to £80,000 from The Mail on Sunday and up to £30,000 from The Guardian. Many MPs earn considerably more in undeclared income.

Mr Hattersley is followed in the list by several Tory MPs who have boosted their earnings during the past year. Robert Atkins, a former Environment Minister, has risen to second place in the table, declaring earnings of up to £65,000.

Under the rules, MPs need disclose their earnings only in £5,000 bands and Mr Atkins declared that he is paid be-tween E25,000 to £30,000 as William Hill and Scottish Coal generated up to £30,000. Harold Elletson (C. Black-

pool North) disclosed earnings of up to £60,000 for his management consultancy. which advises clients on international business.

Sir Dudley Smith (C, War-wick and Learnington) declared earnings of up to £55,000 from clients of his management consultancy. Paul Marland (C. Gloucestershire West) matched earnings of up to £55,000, declaring advisory work for the British Metals Federation, Unigate Dairies, Reclamation Association and Rank Xerox.

John Greenway (C, Ryedale) listed outside earnings of up to £50,000, which elevated him into the top six of declared backbench earners. He earns up to £40,000 as a parliamentary adviser to the institute of Insurance Brokers, Yorkshire Tyne Tees Television and a health company. He is also a director of an insurance broking firm and declared a further £10,000 for other out-

Jack Aspinwall, (C, Wansdyke) is in the top 10 for the second year in succession. His consultancies with Rentokil, BAA, and British Gas have brought him an extra income of up to £55,000.



Spencer Batiste (C, Elmet) has a number of outside interests and listed consultancies worth up to £47,000 from a company of solicitors, the Music Industries Association, a telecommunications company and health communica-

As some former ministers and fellow MPs prepare to end their Westminster careers, other voluntarily or otherwise, some have taken on additional work to cushion the loss of earnings. However, several of those about to leave Westminearnings, insisting that their outside work is not a result of their position as an MP. John Biffen, former Leader of the House, who is standing

directorships but has not revealed the remuneration. Tim Eggar, former Energy Minister, who is also standing down, listed three directorships including one with Monument Oil and Gas. He does

down at the election, listed two

not disclose his earnings.
Sir Michael Grylls (C.
Surrey North West) whose commission payments from

under investigation by the Standards and Privileges Committee, listed six directorships and consultancies. No income was declared.

Kenneth Baker, the former Tory Party chairman, who is retiring at the election, also declined for the second time to disclose his income from a string of consultancies and directorships. Mr Baker holds eight salaried positions rang-ing from Hanson to Bell

Other MPs intending to remain at the Commons Sir Edward Heath, the Father of the House, has angered MPs for the second year running by failing to divulge his outside earnings. Sir Edward, who has be-

come a wealthy man since he lost the Tory leadership in 1975, listed his chairmanship of Dumpton Gap, the company he set up in 1976, as a channel for his income. The undisclosed proceeds from writing, lecturing, television and radio broadcasts are paid into the company. He resigned his membership of Lloyd's in December 1995.

Most of Blair's team benefit from blind trusts

BY ANDREW PIERCE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO thirds of the Shadow Cabinet receive donations towards their office running costs from a network of anonymous donations, the register

The money is channeled into the Shadow Cabinet through a secret web of benefactors who make donations to four blind trusts operated by the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Tony Blair, John Prescott, Gordon Brown and Robin Cook, the four most senior members of the PLP, are all beneficiaries.

The £500,000 Labour Leader's Office Fund, which was set up by Mr Blair's aides last year, has been referred to the Select Committee on Standards and Privileges.

Mr Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, receives an undisclosed donation to his office costs from the Industrial Research Trust, John Prescott, the

deputy Labour leader, also has his own blind trust, the John Prescott Campaign Research Trust, which was set up at the same time as Mr Blairs. Mr Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, receives money from the Labour Front Bench Research Fund, a blind trust that receives a substantial donation each year from

None of the MPs receives any personal gain from the funds. Even their own staff are not told the identity of the donors. The four funds are controlled by Labour Party

Other Shadow Cabinet members who receive support from the Labour Front Bench Research Fund are Tom Clarke, spokesman for the disabled, Margaret Beckett, trade and industry, David Blunkett, education and employment, Ron Davies, Welsh affairs, Harriet Harman, social security, Michael Meacher, environmental protection, Marjorie Mowlam, Northern Ireland, Clare Short, overseas development, and Jack Straw, home affairs.

The Shadow Cabinet members who list no payments from blind trusts are Frank Dobson, environ-ment, Donald Dewar, Chief Whip, David Clark, defence, Jack Cunning-ham, heritage, Chris Smith, health, Ann Taylor, Shadow Leader of the House, Gavin Strang, agriculture, and George Robertson, Scottish

Blair: £500,000 fund Ministers reverse education defeat

THE Government's defeat in the Commons last month over plans to allow the expansion of grant-maintained schools was overturned by the House of Lords yesterday (Poliy Newton writes).

Peers voted by 169 to 127 to restore a clause in the Education Bill that will enable grantmaintained schools to increase their capacity by up to 50 per cent without central approval. But ministers face having to

reverse another defeat inflicted on the Bill on Monday night, when the Lords unexpectedly voted for new restric-tions in a clause aimed at increasing selection in secondary schools. Under the Lords amendment, schools that want to expand selection procedures will have to consult neighbouring schools.

The clause allowing grantmaintained schools to expand their capacity was rejected in the Commons three weeks ago after a tie was mistakenly counted as a one-vote majority for the Opposition. The clause had been rejected at the committee stage when two Tory MPs were absent for the vote. Opposition peers argued yesterday that they should not be expected to agree some-thing that had twice been rejected by MPs.

Major is expected to name the day in two weeks BY PHILIP WEBSTER

POLITICAL EDITOR

SENIOR Tories expect John Major to announce the election date as May 1 after a Cabinet meeting on March 13. But party strategists are still keenly debating the date for the dissolution of Parliament and the launch of the campaign proper.

In recent elections there has been only a short interval between the announcement of the date and the closing of Parliament. This time, because there are seven weeks between March 13 and May 1, John Major may announce that the Commons and Lords will sit until just before or after Easter with the "on-the-road" campaign starting on Mon-

day, April 7. Some at Conservative Central Office are arguing that the long gap would give Labour a head start, enabling them to start campaigning while Tory MPs are detained to push through the remaining business. But senior figures doubt whether there is any point in Mr Major delaying the announcement beyond March 13. By then it will be too late to call the election for April 10. A declaration after the

March 13 Cabinet meeting meeting at Bath on the following two days as an election

Delaying the announce-ment would have little effect because Labour will be working to a May I date in any case. The only legislation to go through will be that which has been agreed between both sides or contentious matters on which the Government is seeking a Commons confrontation with Labour and for which all MPs would wish to be present.

Many Tories, however, do not want Mr Major to dissolve Parliament too early. They want him to use debates on some unresolved issues, such as the Lords defeat over minimum sentences, to try to embarrass Labour. They are also mindful of their privileges. As soon as Parliament is dissolved they cease to be MPs.

There is nothing new about long interval between the calling of the election and the dissolution of Parliament. In 1950 the election date was announced on January 11. Parliament was dissolved on February 3 and the election took place on February 23.

IN PARLIAMENT bets on operation of the International Particle (Scotland) Bill, remains stages; Scotland, Logal Services Contoud man and Commissioner for Local Admitished in Scotland Bill; Tood Prevention Scotland) E

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CRIME with Minette Walters and Colin Dexter

TWO of Britain's leading crime novelists, Minette Walters (above) and Colin Dexter, will discuss the art of crime writing at a Times/Dillons Forum at 7.30pm on Tuesday, March 4, at the Institute of Education, London WCl. The audience will also have a change to question the arthur. have a chance to question the authors.

Dexter's books are worldwide bestsellers and his

Inspector Morse television series topped the ratings with 18 million viewers. Minette Walters has also had television success with *The Sculptress*, which will be followed in May by *The Ice House*.

The admission price includes £2 off the price of Walters's new novel The Echo (£16.99) and £1 off Dexter's Death is Now My Neighbour (E9.99), both published by

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Poll shows Labour to be Asian choice

BY POLLY NEWTON

SEVEN out of ten Asian voters

in Britain are likely to support Labour at the next election, according to a poll by MORI. The survey, carried out for the Asian broadcasting network Zee TV, illustrates the potential impact of the Asian vote in marginal seats around the country. There are 36 constituencies where the number of Asian voters is greater than the majority secured by the winning candidate in 1992. After the poll results were published yesterday, Nirj Deva, the Tories only Asian

tral Office to "stand up and take notice". Mr Deva, MP for Brentford and Isleworth, said: "It is a critical factor in the next election as to how these people are going to vote. A difference of 200 to 300 votes this or that way will make the shape of the next government. This is a figure which political leaders will ignore at

their peril as the next six weeks unravel." The survey of 1,003 Asian voters found that 58 per cent are dissatisfied with the way the Government is running the country. Asked which party they were most inclined to support, 70 per cent said



Deva: urged Central Office to take notice

Labour, 25 per cent the Tories and 4 per cent the Liberal Democrats. Thirteen per cent said they did not know.

There was a surprise response to a question about immigration laws, with 43 per cent saying they were "about right" and 18 per cent saying

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HOME NEWS 9



Patient writer's **Bafta** bonanza

By Dalya Albergs

A FILM yet to be released in Britain but already hailed as a classic was showered yesterday with 13 Bafta nominations.

The English Patient, a love story starring Ralph Fiennes, received 12 Oscar nominations last week. It was brought to the streen by Anthony Minghella, who began screenwriting for the children's television series Grange Hill. He wrote and directed the acclaimed film Truly, Madly. Deeply, but strug-gled for four years to find backing for The English Patient, which he adapted from a Booker Prize-winning novel by Michael Ondaatje.

The nominations by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts included best film, best achievement in direction and best adapted screenplay. The film opens on March 14.

Figures was nominated for best actor. His estranged wife, Alex Kingston, has been nominated for best television actress for Moll Flanders.

Other films that received multiple nominations for the Baitas were Shine, Secrets and Lies and Evita. The awards will be presented on April 29.

Steamed puddings are out, pasta is in, under government guidelines

The chips are down for stodgy school dinners

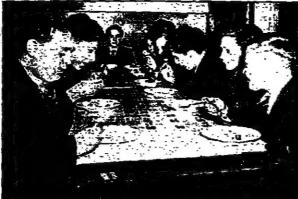
EDUCATION EDITOR

STAPLES of the traditional school dinner — steamed puddings, sausages, dumplings and lemon meringue pie will disappear from the menu if canteen cooks take the advice of Cheryl Gillan, the

Education Minister. She issued guideliness yes-terday to make school meals healthier. Recognising that the chip cannot be banned, she urged schools to serve chunky or oven-cooked chips rather than the crinkle-cut variety or French fries.

Mrs Gillan, launching the initiative at Argyle Primary School in north London, said: School food has improved by leaps and bounds in recent years. Greasy chips and soggy vegetables should be a thing of the past. With the help of this guidance, I want to see school food get even better."

The initiative will encourage cooks to give pupils less fat, sugar and salt, and more fibre, vegetables and carbohydrates. The aim is to make popular food healthy within a limited budget. Snashetti bolimited budget. Spaghetti bo-lognese should contain more pasta and less meat, and hamburgers less burger and more bread, to cut fat and cost and to boost energy-giving carbohydrates. The smell of



The old school: how traditional canteen fare of meat and two veg was served up in the past

boiled cabbage should be a thing of the past if schools follow the advice to steam vegetables lightly.

Caterers, governors and local authorities will receive separate advice on steering children towards healthier eating. The television chef Ainsley Harriott, in a foreword to the booklets, urges schools to tickle their tastebuds and make school dinners the winners".

Schools are urged to set realistic objectives and to assess their success every term. The guidelines are the first

kitchens, but the Governmen

has ruled out compulsion. A spokesman for the Education Department said the improvements were voluntary because "we don't believe someone in London should be telling popils in Lancaster what to eat. But campaigning groups, while welcoming the advice, predict that it will be ineffective if not enforced.

Ben Priestley, assistant national officer of Unison, the public service union, said: Without the necessary backing under legislation, the guidelines - however good can still be ignored by school-

by profit. Often the cheapest contract wins and caterers opt for a free-choice cafeteria system providing fast food such as burgers and chips."

Imogen Sharp, director of the National Heart Forum and secretary of the School Meals Campaign, said it was crucial the guidelines were written into school meals contracts.

Fife to £1.50 in the London borough of Greenwich when a survey was carried out for Unison last year. Yesterday, there was a similar variety of prices and dishes.

Lunch at Manchester Grammar School, one of the leading independent schools, cost £1.43. The main options were layered liver and bacon, vegetarian chili, pork sau-sages, fish fingers or 13 salads. All were served with a choice of chips, rice, baked beans and

The hot pudding was apple crumble and custard, or there were buttered scories, fruit or

At Dulwich High School for Boys, the south Landon comprehensive formerly called William Penn, the menu was simpler. For £1.08 the pupils had savoury mutton or veggie burger with diced carrots or pasta, followed by chocolate



Chips with everything but modern schools' cafeteria-style dishes can be improved

Iron Lady would have approved of emphasis on vitamins

early 1970s, "Margaret Thatcher, milk snatcher, was unfair to the Education Secretury, as she was then.

As one of the parliamentary rebels on school milk — John Gummer was another - I had frequent discussions with her about school meals in general, and milk in particular. She readily accepted the impor-tance of school meals as an essential source of nourishment for children who would otherwise be malnourished. She claimed that her defence

of school milk had been

Dr Thomas Stuttaford overruled in Cabinet, implying that Edward Heath, the ularly at those preparing school meals, but apply equal-

Prime Minister, was opposed ly to whoever looks after the to a daily ration. usehold menu. They rec-The new government guidelines on healthy eating ommend that, as a minin school meals should provide a third of a child's daily calorie for children are aimed partic-

advice, the authors would like to see a reduction in the overall amount of fat eaten, so that it accounts for no more than 35 per cent of the daily calorie intake. Saturated fats - those derived from animals whether as meat, cream or milk - should not contribute more than II per cent of the daily calorie count.

The recommended diet for

children emphasises the importance of the anti-oxidising vitamins. It is suggested that school meals provide an admirable opportunity to make

certain that children have a satisfactory folic acid intake, and that school lunch should provide 40 per cent of the daily requirement of this vitamin, 35 per cent of the necessary vitamin C, and 30 per cent of vitamin A. The antioxidant vitamins protect against infection, and in the long term are cardio-protec-

tive and anti-malignant. Baroness Thatcher, never the milk snatcher, will be pleased to see that milk, and the calcium that is one of its most important constituents receives a special mention.

semi-skimmed milk, presumably for the over-fives, as an invaluable source of calcium. and also commend low-fat cheeses and yoghurt.

Everyone is encouraged to

eat plenty of polysaccharides, whether in the form of rice. starches, porridge or similar foods. We should all be eating more fruit and vegetables, select lean meat, enjoy our fish, have plenty of beans and peas, and of course, keep our fat intake down to under 35 per cent of our total calorie intake.

Mouse causes loss of 50 jobs

A catering firm supplying school dinners has been shut down with the loss of 50 jobs hecause a fieldmouse crept into a tinned-food store.

Ian Denley, solicitor for Eve Catering of Wellington, Somerset, said: "There was no risk of contamination because everything was in tins. The firm lost business worth £160,000 and the chance of a El million contract that would have created 20 jobs."

Body retrieved

The body of a miner was was buried under more than 30 toppes of rubble. John Hall, 56, was leading four colliers down a tunnel at the Castle drift mine at Blenkinsopp Castle, Northumberland.

'Drugs' vomited

A man was under armed guard in hospital in Shannon, Ireland, after vomiting packets suspected to contain cocaine on a flight from Heathrow to New York. The aircraft was diverted after the Jamaican man, 20, became ill.

On your bike

Cotswold councillors are to spend £5,000 on nine mopeds so that unemployed people in rural areas can get to interviews and jobcentres. Gloucestershire Rural Community Council will rent out the 49cc machines for £1 a week.

Has-beans

Tins of beans at least 18 years old were found on a grocer's shelves by trading standards officers. Kapur Mehan, of Nottingham, who admitted contravening the Food Safety Act, was given a 12-month conditional discharge.

Flower protected

A tiny flower found only on limestone around ingleborough in North Yorkshire is to be protected against ramblers, potholers and cars. About 2.000 Arenaria norvegica anglica, a variety of sandwork survive.



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Fifty othe

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Courts martial system 'breaches human rights'

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

THE British court martial system was condemned yes-terday as unfair and in breach of human rights by nine judges in a unanimous ruling by the European Court of Human Rights.

The historic ruling on a military system that has been in force for 600 years followed a judgment in the case of ex-Lance Sergeant Alex Findiay, of the Scots Guards, who was sentenced to two years in prison for threatening to shoot himself and a number of colleagues on a tour of Northem treland in 1990,

Mr Findlay, 35, pleaded guilty, but was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder after seeing comrades being mutilated in the Falklands War and being injured during the battle of Mount Tumble-

The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg ruled against the Ministry of Defence in a 22-page judg-ment and awarded Mr Find-



the judges, including Sir John Freeland, a British judge, refused to approve his claim for £440,220 compensation for loss of earnings and pension. They said they could not speculate on the outcome of his court martial if there had not been a violation of the European Convention on Hu-

with no independent input at

From April there will be a

right of appeal against sen-

tence, but the only possible

appeal against conviction will

remain as now, on a point of

law, and will not allow retrial.

1996, changes to the system

include the introduction of a

military prosecution service

and independent judges who will adjudicate on cases. A

reviewing authority will also

be set up in each service to

conduct a single review of

In 1995, 500 courts martial

were held, of which 135 were contested and 57 resulted in

acquittals. The percentage of acquittals is broadly in line

with the criminal courts.

Under the Armed Forces Act

Fifty other cases 'will cost millions'

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

LAWYERS said yesterday that the same result: a tribunal there were more than 50 outstanding cases similar to Mr Findlay's and they could lead to compensation claims for millions of pounds.

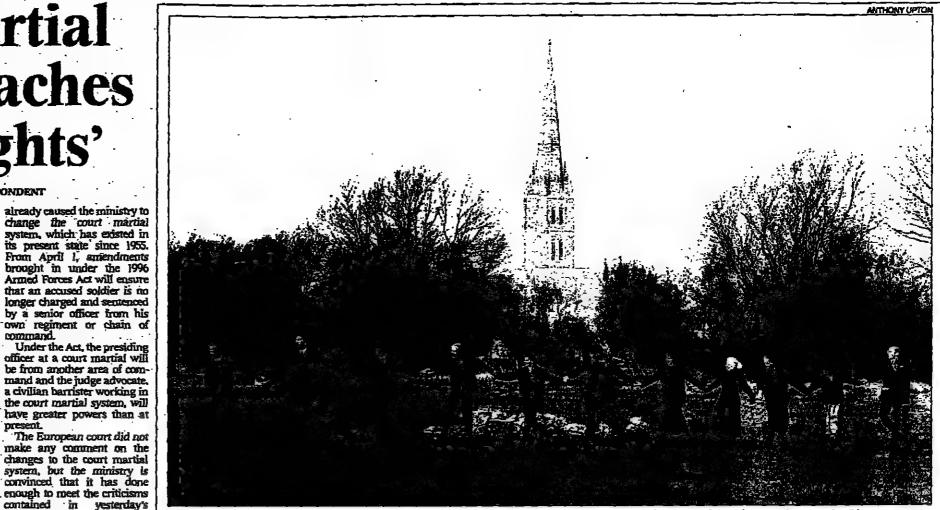
They added that the reforms to the court martial system, which come into effect in April, would not stop further legal challenges in the European Court of Human Rights. Gilbert Blades, a solicitor in Lincoln who specialises in courts martial, said that he intended to test the Ministry of . Defence's belief that it was now conforming to the Convention on Human Rights.

"Defendants will still be tried in the way they are now.".
Mr Blades said. "All that has been done is a little tampering with the way the court martial is convened. You will still have Findlay: suffered from post-traumatic stress.

Lawyers acting for the ministry have advised that the Findlay case would not open the floodgates for compensation claims from other Service personnel who believed that their court martial had been unfair. However, the Strasbourg court was adamant that the present system was in breach of Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights and that trial by court martial lacked the degree of independence

Mr Findlay, who became a painter and decorator after being dismissed from the Army six years ago, took out a civil case against the ministry and was awarded £100,000 because the court martial had failed to take fully into account the pressure he had been under at the time of the incident after his Falklands experience. His lawyers argued that the ministry had failed to develop treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder, although it was recognised by many other countries.

Mr Findlay said yesterday: "I know I committed offences and I realise I had to be punished but medical reports gave a reason why I was in there, but that wasn't taken into consideration."



Protesters on the route of the bypass yesterday. The dual carriageway would cut through protected meadows and across the River Avon

Bypass critics form united front

THE largest alliance of environmental groups converged on Salisbury yesterday to demand that the city's proposed bypass by scrapped. Opponents claim that the road is the most environmentally damaging scheme left in the Government's roads programme.

ranks of the main political parties, have formed the Salisbury Alliance. They indude Friends of the Earth. the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Council for the Protection of Rural England as well as small local groups, such as cycling campaigners.

eran environmentalist who is patron of the Salisbury

"a litmus test of the sincerity of all the political parties" Michael Meacher, a Shadow Environment spokesman. said last week that Labour would impose a moratorium on the bypass if the party won the general election.

A ministerial decision on the II-mile dual carriageway is expected by the end of next

Hares may have met their last Waterloo

BY RUSSIELL JENIUMS

ANIMAL rights campaigners and blood sports enthusiasts faced each other across barbed wire yesterday for what could be the last confrontation at hare coursing's "cup final".

The Waterloo Cup, held on a windswept field on Merseyside, once provoked violent clashes. The heavily policed confrontation has now grown into an annual ritual on the opening day of the three-day event where, since 836, 64 greyhounds have competed to be too dog at the expense of the hare. The event could be outlawed, along with lox hunting, under Labour, which

barming blood sports. The two sides - campaigners in

anoraks and woollen masks, largely passive, and sullen coursers in outsize Barbours and camouflage jackets stared at each other across a ditch outside Great Altcar.

On an open field a quarter of a mile away, a brace of greynounds, flanked by about 6,000 spectators, were held in a coupling collar ready to be slipped as soon as the 60 beaters flushed a wild hare out into the open.

When the hare has an 80 yard start, greyhounds with names such as Droopys Tel, Jive Boogy and Midsum-

has pledged to give MPs a free vote on mer Flash are unleashed. They are awarded points for speed and their agility to turn as the hare runs for its life towards specially grown rushes where the dogs, who hunt by sight alone, cannot follow.

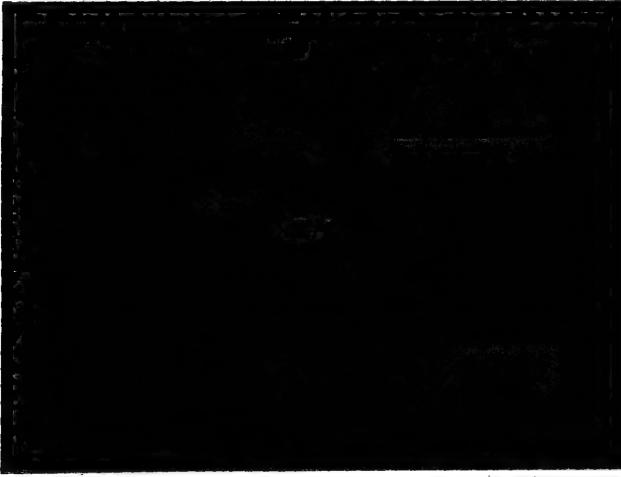
Most hares manage to outwit their pursuers, but the unfortunate few — 11 ast year over the three days - falter to be fought over by the dogs. Coursing's supporters say it is the only blood sport where a "kill" is not the object. They also argue that a ban will drive coursing underground and result in unpoliced slaughter.

Sir Mark Prescott, a senior steward,

only partially joking. This is where the Range Rover crowd stands shoulder to shoulder with the working class. "It would be a tragedy if hare coursing was banned," he said.

Paul Hill, a self-employed electrician and one of a party of 12 from Bradford staying at a bed and breakfast in nearby Southport, said: "It is the working man's opera."

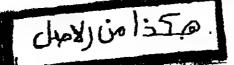
The last council to allow grouse shooting on its moorland has banned the field sport. Bradford Metropolitan Council, which owns Ilkley Moor, west Yorkshire, says shooting goes against



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THE Taleban Islamic army broke into northern Afghanistan for the first time yesterday after weeks of hand-tohand fighting in extreme weather conditions high in the mountains. The invaders now control the highest point overlooking the last ten provinces resisting their apparently unstoppable advance.

The battle for the strategic Shibar pass involved tanks and artillery. Its fall is potentially disastrous for the northern military alliance led by General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord who controls six provinces along or near the borders of the Central Asian states.

Pul-i-Khumri, a mud town 100 miles north of Shibar pass, could be Taleban's next target. although it would be a gruelling journey over mountain passes. The mood in Pul-i-Khumri is tense: military vehicles roar through the dusty streets, a radar dish swivels on a hilltop, and there is feverish activity around the home of Jaffer Nadiri, the provincial governor - a former Hell's Angel who returned from the

Taleban's push northwards was stalled after General Dostum's forces used explosives to block the Salang Highway, the main all-weather link between north and south Afghanistan. The fight-



Christopher Thomas reports from Pul-i-Khumri on a mountain victory for the Afghan Islamic forces

way, battling through snow over dirt roads to break through two lines of defences.

The defenders were Hazaras, one of the biggest minority ethnic groups, led by their commander, Karim Khalilli. He is a member of the northern military alliance, but it appears that Taleban bribed some of his commanders to

Shibar pass is the gateway to the north, opening out to Bamian province and providing access to Baghlan and Samangan provinces, Taleban said it had captured tanks and other equipment and had takedge of General Dostum's territory, and the decisive battle for northern Afghanistan has begun.

Morale is low in the north, and there is a feeling of anarchy in the countryside. Armed young men, hungry and penniless, sit alongside main roads, waiting to halt vehicles at rifle-point and demand money; most are high on hashish. This is good news for Taleban, a mostly discireputation for imposing law and order and neither loots nor rapes. Many northerners wonder whether Taleban, predominantly Pashtun, would not be so bad, given that it

would bring security.

Jabul Saraj, a strategic town close to the Salang Tunnel, fell to Taleban last month. It was the field headquarters of General Dostum and his key ally, General Ahmad Shah Masood, who is fighting for survival in his stronghold of the Panshir Valley, east of the Salang Highway.

Taleban continues to probe General Dostum's defences in western Afghanistan, north of Herat. The general, speaking at his military headquarters in Mazar-i-Sharif, the main northern city, said this week that. Tolekon had abaned that Taleban had changed tactics. Instead of concentrating on the western flank, it was now trying to push through from the Shibar pass. He insisted that the invaders would never get to Mazar, a boast that must have concealed a realisation that for the first time his fieldom is



Taleban fighters with military hardware head north as the decisive battle for northern Afghanistan gets under way

Luxury airship will be flying Orient Express

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

powered by three 500hp en-WORK will start next month on the world's largest airship. Twice the size of a Boeing 747,

it will take about ten days to cruise form Johannesburg to New York. The design belongs to Jonathan Hamilton, a 30year-old Johannesburg busi-

gines, travel at 100mph and carry 120 passengers. Nicknamed "Nelson"

after the South Africa President - the craft is designed to handle extreme weather and to take off and land like a helicopter. Mr Hamilton says nessman, who has won the passengers will enjoy luxury put down last month after it backing of Denel, South Africans leading private defence. Expressiving have fantastics mad cown disease. The anicontractor, Funded through a view through Stringh wines, mal arrived from Whipsnade trust, he has raised 85 million dows. This is harking back to in 1993. It was the fifth case of rand (£11.5 million) to build an era everyone thought was BSE recorded in a cheetah the craft, which will be dead," he said.

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Medding anniversary -

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Russian writer dies Moscow: Andrei Sinyavsky. 71. the Russian writer whose 1966 imprisonment for antistate activity marked the foundation of the Soviet dissident movement, died yesterday of

cancer in Paris, his home for 24 years (Robin Lodge writes). A series of novels and essays followed his 1955 first novel, The Circus. He received wide acclaim in France but barely any recognition in Russia, where his death received only a brief mention.

Obituary, page 21

Killer's return Sydney: Archie McCafferty, 48, a Scottish-born triple mur-derer, who has spent nearly a quarter of a century behind bars, was granted parole yesterday and will return to Glasgow next month (Roger Maynard writes). After being freed, pending a final decision by the Parole Board seen as a formality, he will be put on a flight on March 18.

Bombing threat

New York: A group calling itself the Army of God said that it was responsible for recent bombings of abortion clinics and a homosexual bar in Atlanta, Georgia (Quentin Letts writes). The FBI is taking seriously a letter purporting to come from the group in which it threatens further atttacks on

Kosovo torture

Belgrade: An ethnic Albanian was tortured before he died in police custody in the Serbian province of Kosovo, a European Parliament delegation has claimed, adding that it would recommend that Serbia be denied European aid until its human rights record improved (Reuter)

'Mad' cheetah

a French 200 from Britain, was was found to be suffering from

Zaire troops loot town as rebels close in taking Kisangani's airport and that an assault on the city

AFRICA CURUESPONDENT

ZAIREAN soldlers went on a looting spree yesterday in Kindu, one of the Government's last key strongholds. after reports that rebel troops were closing in on the town.

The collapse into anarchy in the town, which controls access to Kisangani, Zaire's third largest city, came as Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader, flew to South Africa for a possible meeting with President Mandela, intelli-Aid workers said the re- Zaire were closing in on the



ports of widespread looting signalled that Mr Kabila's Alliance of Democratic Forces gence sources in Nairobi said. for the Liberation of Congoseldom paid and lacking in discipline, forced civilians in Kindu to flee into the surrounding rainforest. Brenda Barton, of the Uni-

ted Nations World Food Programme, said: "The town is tense and there are no longer any guarantees that we can get food in there." One aid worker who recently returned from eastern Zaire

said: "If the Zairean troops are looting Kindu, then you can assume it will soon be in rebel hands. Kindu and Kisangani were

for a government counter-

defence spokesman in Kinshasa, the Zairean capital, said the town would be used as an air base to bomb the advancing rebels after they overran Kalima, 75 miles east of Kindu, on Saturday.

The loss of Kinda would be a military disaster for Zaire's Army, leaving it only Kisan-gani (formerly Stanleyville) as a base. Its fall would enable the rebels to proceed unhampered to Kisangani, which is already being besieged from the north and east.

The rebel radio station in Bukavu boasted vesterday that its forces were close to

On Monday, machinegun fire raked the city, prompting the UN High Commissione for Refugees and other relief agencies to start evacuating eign workers. The cancerstricken President Mobutu. who returned at the weekend to his home in the south of France, has often rejected talks with the rebels.

would occur in days. The

skilled bush warriors are also

proving adept at propaganda.

and their broadcasts to the

demoralised Zairean troops

are causing panic

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Televised tears are official epitaph for Deng

Cacophony of riter die city's growth muffles noisy tribute to reformer

FROM JAMES PRINGLE

IT WAS ironic that, in the end, most citizens outside the centre of Beijing did not hear trains hoot for three minutes and factory sirens sound in Seallar's relum mourning for the death of Deng Xiaoping yesterday, because of the thunderous noise of traffic and construction. In a way, it was a fitting epitaph for Deng, China's last great revolutionary leader, for he brought the burgeoning development to China.

A small incident illustrated the strengths and repressions of Deng's China outside Beijing railway station — a relic of the Maoist era — just before 10am, the hour of the start of the Chinese leader's official funeral in the Great Hall of the People.

A young man was telling a foreign correspondent how without Deng's reforms he would never have been able to go to university when police asked for the journalist's credentials, saying no inter-views were permitted without. the permission of the railway department's foreign affairs bureau. There was a danger, the police captain said, that "a crowd would gather".

Soon afterwards the station clock chimed the opening bars of The East is Red, one of the few places in China where the Cultural Revolution anthem can still be heard, and on the



President Jiang Zemin, centre, and a People's Liberation Army officer, weep for Deng at Beijing's Great Hall of the People yesterday. Their sentiments are echoed in Chengdu, Sichuan province

massive television monitor on the front of the building, Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, in a broadcast from the Great Hall, said three words "Grieve in silence" - and bowed his head. Hundreds at the station stood, soleron but

Deng is respected, rather than loved, in China for the relative prosperity he has brought many. This is partly a legacy of the greater sophistication of a better-off population, whose concerns are now less revolutionary than workaday, and partly as a result of his darker side, most notably

the military crackdown he ordered on pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square in June 1989. Because he is not universal-

loved, as was Zhou Enlai, the former Prime Minister, whose 1976 obsequies set off riots, most people regret his passing but regard it with a relative lack of emotion. This is why, apart from pictures on state television of people weep-ing — are selected by the cameramen under party in-structions because they are crying - most people have contained their tears.

sobbed as he began to deliver his 50-minute euology. "With Jiang, some of it at least has got to be political theatre," said one analyst, "At the same time, most of the ordinary people who are seen crying are on Chinese television. It's all part of the contrived, stagemanaged nature of Deng's death and aftermath. You don't see people crying as you travel round the city."

It is only in recent times that weeping has become acceptable in China. During the 1960s and 1970s, when children were sent off to the

peasants", parents and offspring had to keep a stoic demeanour. Nowadays. people at railway stations do not feel bad to be seen fighting back tears when saying goodbve to loved ones. It is also acceptable for lovers to embrace and hold hands. Once, as I saw here in the Seventies, even love seemed to be dead. It would be hard to imagine

Deng, the crusty old revolutionary and Long Marcher, to have ever been caught crying. "Deng was okay, but no-body will cry, only his family." a taxi driver told me the leader died last week aged 92. On the other hand, diplomats say that tens of thousands, even hundreds of thousands, of Chinese would have turned out to pay their last respects to the diminutive Sichuanese for the better life his reforms gave

But so nervous of unrest is the new leadership under President Jiang, who used an almost archaic Marxist nomenciature during his oration, that the Government has permitted only "official", carefully choreographed mourning, bussing in mourners from factories and work units under strict supervision. Because of demonstrations prompted by detained. the spontaneous mourning of Zhou, in 1976 and 1989, "spon-

with "counter-revolution". Yet there were some spontaneous moments yesterday when Tiananmen was reopened. Several dozen Chinese rushed to lay flowers on the monument to people's heroes - a focal point of the 1989 Tiananmen events - or shed their outer garments to reveal white mourning sheets underneath, or to post poems or posters. They were quickly

taneity" is almost synonymous

removed and a number were

In his eulogy to 10,000 party members, with Deng's ashes at centre stage in a casket wrapped in the red hammerand-sickle Communist flag. Mr Jiang used the word "comrade" frequently and vowed to continue Deng's freemarket reforms, which have improved the lives of hundreds of millions of Chinese but have brought no political relaxation.

Deng's ashes were to be committed to the sea.

North Korean defector dies after being shot by 'agents'

Seoul: A North Korean defector died in a hospital near the South Korean capital yesterday, ten days after he was shot suspected Pyongyang

Li Il Nam, 36, a selative of the former wife of Kim Jong II, the North Korean leader, was shot outside his temporary home at Bundang, south of Seoul. Police said the two Belgian-made Browning pis tols, often used by North

In another development yes-terday, President Kim Young Sam of South Korea publicly apolosised for a bribery scandal and banished one of his sons allegedly involved in it. "I will not keep him near me,"
Mr Kim said in a nationally. televised speech marking the fourth anniversary of his



Le attacked outside his home ten days ago

Hanbo Steel Industry, a flagship of the Hanbo group, the nation's fourteenth largest conglomerate, went bankrupt last month with debts of \$6 billion (£3.6 billion) - 22 times the value of its collateral. The debt was incurred mostly in government-controlled bank loans. After Mr Kim's public apology. Lee Hong Koo, the chairman of the ruling New Korea Party and other NKP leaders tendered their resigna tions. Earlier, the 12 top officeholders in the President's secretariat stepped down.
The President gave no clear

indication over whether he accepted the resignations, which would put the ruling December, Radical South Korean students demanding the resignation of the President clashed with riot police yesterday, hours after the apology was made.

U Strike plaze South Korea's outlawed Korean Confederation of Trade Unions said it would launch a general strike on Friday unless a controversial new labour law was repealed. (Reuter/AP/AFP)

'Advisory role' for mercenaries

Sydney: Foreign mercenaries hired to help to crush rebels on the Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville would act in an advisory capacity and not take part in frontline fighting. Sir Julius Chan, the Prime Minister, promised last night (Roger Maynard worker)

writes). Speaking on Australian nine-year-old secessionist conflict. He admitted private ly that some of those involved were British and American soldiers. They are here to upgrade the capacity, to get our soldiers to deal with a bostile situation," very bostile situation." he said. "But they will only be part of the advisory team ...

Israel turns desert salt water into wine

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

NOT content with making the desert bloom, Israeli expertise has now ensured that drinkers will soon be able to toast each other with cabernet sauvignon produced from grapes grown with salty groundwater in the Negev.

A team of university researchers from Israel and Turkey was reported to have succeeded in producing a successful first crop of seedless, purple-red grapes whose wine, they claim, tastes just like cabernet

sauvignon. Professor Yiftah Ben-Asher of the Desert Research Institute at Ben-Gurion University disclosed to a conference on desert agriculture attended by delegates from Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Morocco and the Palestinian Authority that his half-acre of vines had just

produced their first harvest. A year after the institute planted its experimental crop, researchers planted a much larger vineyard, soon to expand to 20 acres, intended for commercial production. The wine will be bottled at Israel's Rishon Lezion winery.

"Whatever happens

in the Election,

my loan stays fixed."

The wine has the same colour, aroma and taste as cabernet sauvignon grown in sweet water." Professor Ben-Asher claimed. "At least to the layman. We are now working to improve the flavour even

He said that underground water in the Negev has about one-tenth the salt concentration of the sea, but even that is fatal to most fruit and vegetables. The secret of the desert-produced vintage is that the root stock of the vines involved appears to work as a filter that keeps the salt out of the grapes.

wedding anniversary - and fasti Where can we go

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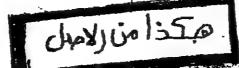
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Swedes' taste for EU turns sour as outsider Norway finds life sweet

SWEDEN'S brief marriage with the European Union is turning sour and a growing number of citizens are openly questioning the value of membership. That disillusion contrasts starkly with — and is partly fed by — the bouncy optimism of the Norwegians who voted to remain outside the EU.

The tale of the two Scandinavian neighbours provides a modern fable that is giving Central Europeans pause for thought as they queue for admission to the club: EU membership is no longer synonymous with prosperity.

voting to join, Sweden has become deeply hostile to Brussels. Some 60 per cent of ruling Social Democrats would like to leave. Nationwide opposition to membership and monetary union is higher.

Goran Persson, the Swedish Prime Minister, is maintaining a wait-and-see policy on EMU entry, but his Cabinet is split Most outspoken is Carl Tham, the Education Minister, who dubs monetary union an "example of utopian social engineering of the worst possible kind". Coming from a Social Democrat whose party has tried since the 1920s to draw up

Less than three years after a utopian bloeprint for Sweden. This was shrugged off as a protest single-currency project. Now it oting to join, Sweden has become that is powerful criticism. Mone-vote but, if anything, the puts the chances at 64 per cent. tary union, he said, would lead to a rise in unemployment - already 13 per cent of the workforce - and to a "German Europe rather than a Europeanised Germany". Unhappiness with Europe

emerged only nine months after the referendance in European elections the anti-Brussels parties (the Greens and the Left) scooped 30 per cent of the vote while the ruling Social Democrats took a drubbing. Taking into account anti-European candidates, about one half of Sweden's representatives in Strasbourg can be counted as hostile.

grown since 1995. The reason is partly a sense of broken promises. Swedes had expected cheaper food, competitively priced cars and washing-machines, more jobs and, above all, greater influence within the EU. Instead they perceive their country as in steep decline, and they blame Brussels.

The JP Morgan calculation which places probabilities on EMU membership on the basis of financial market expectations last month gave Sweden a 76 per cent chance of taking part in 1999's.

The heart of the problem is nemployment and its implications for the overstrained welfare state, Swedes were accustomed to unemployment rates of about 2 per cent, and the social web spun by garded as a model by the Left and Centre-Left throughout Western Europe, spawning a degree of Swedish arrogance. Yet the Swedish model was financed by heavy borrowing and European mem-

time. Public spending has been

crawl and jobs have melted like icefloes in March.

It is all made far worse by the success of neighbouring Norway. which waited until after the Swedish referendum before casting its vote calculating that Norwegians would-follow by example. Instead there was a strong "No" vote and the threatened isolation and economic decline has not happened Growth has been above 4 per cent for the past two years and the country is one of the few (with Luxembourg) that could be sure this year of meeting all Maastricht entry criteria for monetary union. North Sea oil is an important

investment has risen by some 30 per cent and the non-oil economy is growing at an annual rate of about 3 per cent. Unemployment is low at about 5 per cent of the workforce and falling.

Norway has benefited from its

"shadow" EU membership. As a member of the European Economic Area it enjoys most of the trade benefits of full membership, bar agriculture and fishing. Here Norwegians have used some Viking cuming — salmon farmers, for example, moving into Scotland so they can keep supplying their markets without import levy fears.

German protesters launch attacks to block nuclear train

GERMANY'S militant antinuclear activists are preparing for the country's biggest show-down on atomic waste by launching nationwide attacks on the railway network.

The point of the protests which affected five stretches of railway line yesterday including the high-speed route to Frankfurt airport — is to highlight the role of trains in transporting six huge canisters of spent nuclear rods to a storage depot in northern

The nuclear transport is not due to begin until the end of the week, and the canisters should arrive at the heavily guarded storage centre in Gorleben, Lower Saxony, by militant groups have already started a campaign of disrup-tion. A train ticket centre has been attacked, protesters have sawn away stretches of track, and yesterday grappling irons were used to drag down overhead lines.

A shipment of nuclear waste last year led to the planting of several small but potentially fatal bombs on mainline routes. Counter-terrorism experts fear an even more violent n in the coming and say that militants have been systematically infiltrating the broadly peaceful anti-

The mood has been made determined by the accidental deralling of a nuclear shipment through eastern France earlier this month. Officials said there was no radiation leak, but protesters see the derailment as an example of the hazards of nuclear transport through Germany.

The six canisters heading for Gorleben will be monitored for radiation throughout the trip. About 20,000 police have been assigned to protect the waste, but no single policeman will spend more than two hours next to a carnister less they be affected by radiation. Anti-nuclear groups have been distributing leaflets in and around police stations

Bonn tax cuts deal 'close'

Bonn: Germany's ruling coalition and the opposi tion Social Democrats were yesterday close to a ossible deal to reduce company taxes as a way of achieving a compromise on broad reforms designed to combat record postwar unemployment, now running at 4.7 million. However, the talks on sweeping tax reeautious over whether they

sterility. Not surprisingly, few policemen from outside Lower Saxony have been volunteering for escort duty.

The tactical goal of the protesters is to push up the costs of nuclear transport to such an extent that it no longer makes any financial sense. However, not all anti-nuclear campaigners believe this to be a sensible course.

Dr Michael Sailer of the

Darmstadt Ecological Insti-tute has warned the militants that their blockade will make recycling in Sellafield and France a more feasible financial alternative. That in turn would reinforce what he calls the "plutonium industry".

The civil disobedience campaign is certainly gathering force and the boundaries between violent and non-violent protest have become blurred. According to leaflets distributed in many German cities, the time had come for an "offensive against the infrastructure of the railways, electricity works and public buildings"

It was up to "each individual as to how to exercise his or her civil disobedience: by ysically blocking the rail way lines, removing sleepers unscrewing boits or sawing the tracks". As Germany has 25,000 miles of track, there should be no shortage of



Models show off Pierre Cardin's fashions for next autumn and winter at Berlin's famous KaDeWe shopping centre. The centre is also staging a retrospective exhibition of the French designer's work

Rifkind to set record clear on Milosevic. Foundation in France, police hunting terrorists By Michael Binyon supporter of President Milosevic. Vulk reform and independent metric. All the December 3 rounded up more than

DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE three leaders of the main opposition parties in Serbia arrived in Britain last night for three days of talks at the Government's invitation. The meeting is intended to correct the impression in Serbia that Britain is an important

Draskovic, the leader of the Serbian three played key roles and the the Democratic Party, and Vesna Pesic of the Civic Alliance of Serbia, will meet Malcolm Rifland, the Foreign Secretary, this morning to brief him on the democracy movement and the Zajedno coalition's drive for electoral

Britain last month. Mr Rifkind want to know how much support they islamic militants using a homemade will give to the Dayton peace accords. bomb constructed out of a gas cylinder.

Algerian extremists murder bus passengers

BY BEN MACINTYRE

ALGERIAN Islamic militants have murdered at least 29 civilians in the past two days after the most violent of the Muslim fundamentalist groups announced a fresh offensive in its campaign to topple the Government.
A group of 60 guerrillas ambushed

two buses near the southern town of Stid on Sunday night and murdered 17 unarmed passengers. "Seven passen-gers were shot dead before the eyes of the the other travellers, and the remaining ten were dragged away to be killed by having their throats cut," al-Khabar newspaper reported.

On Monday night a radical Islamic group said it had carried out the assassination last month of Abdelhak Benhamouda, a trade union leader. In a pre-recorded interview on Algerian state television, Moujahed Rachid, the head of a rebel splinter group, said the country's top trade unionist had been assassinated to "prompt a crisis at

government level". Other extremists, however, are concentrating on terrorising the civilian population in an accelerating campaign of brutality. Over a 48-hour period, in addition to the Stid massare, four women and one man were shot dead in Algiers, five other people were abducted and then murdered. and two more were killed when a bomb exploded in the market at Boutank, south of the capital.

Protests 1750 people yesterday as the Interior dozens, was the work of Algerian



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Skyscraper

gunman

denounced

Britain

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE supposedly apolitical gunman who sprayed bullets into tourists at the Empire State Building on Sunday died with an angry letter in his

pocket that castigated Britain, France and the United States

for their support of Israel. Ali Abu Kamal, 69, who

shot himself fatally in the head

on the skyscraper's 86th-storey viewing planform, appeared to

harbour a grudge against the "evil big three" Western powers. The rambling letter,

which we copied in English

and Arabic, described them as

anti-Palestinian.
It gave rise to suspicions that the shootings, in which

one tourist died and six were

hurt, may not have been as random as thought, nor moti-vated simply by Kamal's al-leged loss of his life savings in

an American investment

However, Howard Safir, New

York's Police Commissioner,

said he was continuing to view

the incident as the work of a

"deranged individual" rather

The skyscraper reopened to

Democrat donor has links to Beijing

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

FOR the first time, a donor in the fundraising scandal that is swamping President Clinton and the Democrats was official link to the communist Government. shown yesterday to have an official link to the Chinese murderh

Ng Lap Seng, a property developer in Macau, made a contribution of \$15,000 (F9,250) that has been called passenge into question during a secret internal audit by the Demo-cratic National Committee. So have dozens of political contri-butions from other donors, many of them Asians, that the committee is preparing to return this week - in addition to the \$1.5 million already sent back as tainted money.

Meanwhile, Mr Clinton re-

jected any suggestion that he had induced people to donate campaign funds by offering them overnight stays at the White House, "The Lincoln Bedroom was never sold," he said brusquely. Mr Ng serves on the Chinese People's Polit-ical Consultative Conference in the Chinese city of Canton. The body acts as a national advisory board to the Chinese Government and the Communist Party.

Tracked down by The Washington Post, Mr Ng acknowledged that his \$15,000 did not come from business funds raised in America, as required by law. Further, he said, other contributions by his business partner, Charles Yah Lin Trie, a friend of Mr Clinton's, might also have come from Mr Ng's business interests in China, Hong Kong and Macau.

Both Mr Ng and Mr Trie were among the Asian entre-preneurs who set up shop in Little Rock, Arkansas, starting from Mr Clinton's time as Governor. Their operations are now under investigation the Justice Department task force looking into allegations of illegal fundraising.

The task force was already pursuing a reported link to the Chinese Embassy in Washington for allegedly directing contributions to the Democrats from foreign sources information said to have been gleaned from electronic eavesdropping by the US Govern-ment. China denied the account, and Mr Clinton said it would be a very serious matter if any country attempt-

ed to funnel funds into an American political party. Re-publicans are sharpening their knives in anticipation of congressional hearings which they promise will be devoted to exhaustive inquiries into the purported Chinese connection other off-shore fundraising shenanigans by

the Democrats. Mr Clinton's zeal for rewarding big donors with an overnight stay at the White House was shown when he scribbled his enthusiastic approval on a memo propos-ing the idea from his campaign finance director, according to officials. The memo dozens. said the promise of a coffee meeting or bed-and-breakfast

at the White House should be

used as "motivators" to en-

courage heavy contributors to give again. No one has said how many snuggled under the sheets of the Lincoln Bedroom, having given as much as \$100,000 each, but they were thought to number in the

However, Mr Clinton suid: "This is one more false story we have had to endure and the facts will show what the truth

is." His aides were preparing to release a list of Mr Clinton's overnight guests to counter the allegation that invitations were an inducement to

Mr Clinton is also trying hard to rebut suggestions that the foreign and domestic "fatcar" contributors influenced government policy. All they got was a "respectful hearing"

donors.

about their concerns, but no guaranteed results, he said, a claim of innocence widely disbelieved by critics.

As the scandal unfolds, Mi Clinton has attended a Washington fundraiser, his third since his inauguration last The event raised \$500,000 towards paying off the Democrats' election debts of close to \$10 million.

tourists yesterday. Metal detectors have now been placed at the entrance and security checks — an absence of which had led to criticism of the building's owners - have been introduced. It was also reported yesterday that Kamal went to the

than terrorism.

building the day before the shooting to "case the joint". Noting that visit and the letter found on his body, a police spokesman said: "It looks very wanted revenge.

investigators hope to find out how the English teacher from the Gaza Strip managed to save so much money; some reports put the amount he lost on ill-guided investments at

Those who met Kamal in the days before the shooting described him as a wreck, smoking and drinking heavi-ly, buying \$20 call-girls, ent-ing like a hungry dog and scribbling mad messages on



President Clinton made full disclosure of his latest gift, an \$18 watch, at a Washington education conference yesterday. But he was angered by suggestions that he traded overnight stays at the White House for campaign funds. "The Lincoln Bedroom was never sold," he said

Warning on Gulf War gas risk 'lost'

Washington: Documents made public yesterday reveal that the CIA warned the Pentagon in 1991 that American troops may have been exposed to chemical weapons in the Gulf War, five years before Pentagon officials said they were aware of it (lan Brodie writes).

Only last year did the Pentagon acknowledge that more than 20,000 troops may have been exposed to nerve gas during the destruction of an as Kamiseyah. Previously American commanders had insisted they did not believe troops were exposed to nerve gas because no soldiers became seriously ill or died during the 1991 war.

The Penusgon offered no explanation of how it "lost" the. CIA's detailed warnings. The confusion is bound to add to the widespread belief among thousands of veterans suffering from Gulf War Syndrome: That their health problems were not taken seriously and that possible causes were hushed up. The documents, and the Pentagon's admission of having overlooked them. offer no new clues to the mystery of whether chemical weapons might have been responsible for their ailments.

The issue will now be pur sued by President Clinton's advisory committee on Gulf



General Gutiériez accused of being in pay of cartel

Mexico clears out anti-drugs agency

MEXICO has sacked 36 people in its anti-narcotics agency who were all linked to General Jesús Gutiérrez Reboilo, a top official under arrest for allegedly taking bribes from the head of the country's biggest cocaine cartel. The general faces court-

martial, possibly for treason. The clear-out, announced yesterday, appeared to be timed to try to salvage Mexi-co's drug-lighting reputation in Washington. President Clinton must decide this week whether Mexico is doing enough to combat drugs to qualify for continued American aid. Barry McCaffrey, the head of the White House antidrugs office, said he chaired a

meeting of senior officials who seriously considered downgrading Mexico's rating as an ally in the drug fight.
The alleged betrayal by

General Gutiérrez is believed to have compromised much of America's war on drugs along the Mexican border. Washing-ton had briefed the general about informants, operations and satellite surveillance of the drug runners who smuggle two-thirds of the cocaine into the United States through Mexico from Colombia and

However, the United States might still give Mexico quallfied approval on the grounds of its own national interests. Mr McCaffrey said.

Final big deal ends broker's record run

BY QUENTIN LETTS

THE world's oldest capitalist is dead. Jacques Coe, a 103year-old stockbroker who remained active on the "marvellous game" of Wali Street until his last days, died in a Florida hospital "well

Mr Coe, who started work as a securities house messenger boy in New York in 1907 and who saw enough market wobbles to make him calm in taking, retained an impressive portfolio of private clients until the end. Most of them were rich widows whose husbands Mr Coe had known and outlived.

Joseph Cohen, chairman of the Wall Street firm Cowen & Company, where Mr Coe worked for the past 30 years. said yesterday: "He was a consummate salesman with a high level of integrity. An

interesting guy." He was the oldest active stockbroker in the United States and, it is believed, in the world. Only when his children stopped him travel-ling after his 100th birthday did he cease making annual trips to London for a lunch at the City firm of Singer and Friedlander and to catch up

on market intelligence. Mr Cohen said that in the current runaway New York stock market Mr Coe, who worked from home for the past three years, was "bear-ish". He started work just after a major Dow Jones index "readjustment" and founded his own company in 1926 - three years before the disastrous crash of 1929.

Mr Coe was luckier and shrewder than most and ended 1929 with a profit. Having survived that catastrophe, he tended to take a relaxed view of later crises. He is credited with invent-

ing, more than 80 years ago, the use of technical analysis of companies and investment trends. Most days he smoked a cigar - washed down by a stiff vodka - and up to his death he was full of schemes about how to "make a turn".

Cowen & Company has a reputation for longevity. Now that Mr Coe is gone, the title of senior professional at the firm passes to living Sherman, 92, who goes into the office every day and is said to be keenly competitive with brokers a fraction of his age.



Russia sidesteps US controls

By IAN BRODIE

RUSSIA'S nuclear-weapons establishment was reported vesterday to have evaded United States export controls and obtained a powerful IBM supercomputer through a European middleman.

The Russians said they plan to use the IBM RS/6000 SP to simulate nuclear tests, but the Americans say such super-computers, which are capable of performing ten billion calculations a second, could help Russia to design new arms.

The American restrictions and the Russians' success in getting round them show how edgy relations remain be-

tween the former Cold War enemies over the nuclearweapons issue. The Russians insist that they need supercomputers to verify the reli-ability of their nuclear stockpile, now that they have agreed to halt nuclear testing.

Russian officials refused to

say precisely who sold them the computer but they did not hesitate to publicise the acquisition, perhaps calculating that they might undermine Washington's rationale for continued restrictions, according to The New York Times. "If we see something we can buy on the European market, we

buy it," Vladislav Petrov, the head of Public Affairs for the Russian Ministry of Atomic Energy Affairs, said. He said the computer was bought for \$7 million (E4.2 million). Under US law, American

computer manufacturers are still required to obtain Washington's permission to sell their most powerful models to Russia. Last year the Clinton Administration turned down requests from both IBM and Hewlett-Packard to sell supercomputers to Moscow, amid suspicions that they would be sent to nuclear weapons design centres.

much premeditated. He had a lot of grievances against a lot of people. He was mad at the US, France and Great Brit-ain." The letter included a "charter of honour", listing enemies on whom Kamal

\$500,000 (£307,000).

scraps of paper.

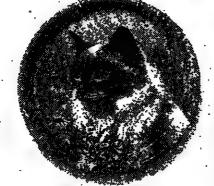


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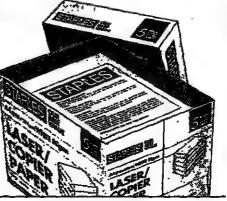
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FASHION







A new generation of hat makers is learning to combine fantasy with high street business skills. Iain R. Webb reports

drome nightclub in the West End, Philip Treacy, the celebrated milliner of the smart young set, will unveil his collection for autumn/winter 1997. These will be no ordinary hats. Treacy, who graduated from the Royal College of Art in 1990 in a blaze of glory, has built his reputation on the fantastic and flamboyant one of his favourite creations is a scale model of an Elizabethan galleon.

Treacy's show, which will be one of the highlights of London Fashion Week, is sponsored by Debenhams, the chain store, for whom he creates a range of more wearable, special-occasion hats.
The association reflects the awareness of young designers

Meanwhile, at the Royal College of Art, the latest crop of students have been working with Kangol, the international headwear company whose hats are worn by everyone from Willie Nelson to Limford Christie, on a project that mirrors the link between Treacy and Debenhams. Last October first-year stu-

dents were taken to Luton for a tour of the company's factory. They met the milliner Graham Smith, who, aside from his own private clients who include Jemima Khan and Cosima Von Bulow, is also Kangol's international consultant design director. To encourage the students to produce interesting, yet wear-able designs. Smith devised a project to create wedding hats for four specific categories:

ditional country wedding, sec-ond marriage and media wed-ding. The best four were to be sold at Harrods. start to finish, whereas I could spend up to two weeks on just one of my designs."

Smith says: It took me ten years to get the hang of the factory. You have to learn to Smith wants the students see what goes on outside the rarified atmosphere of the adapt the styles because there design studio. "I think it is a are so many technical processvery sobering experience to es which limit your ideas even discover the restrictions of ore you start - like how what machines can do. If you high the crown of a hat can be are impressed by the glitz of the fashion business then the because it has to be able to go factory must seem very basic

through a certain machine." John Strutton, production director at Kangol, was im-pressed by the standard: by comparison," he says. Dagmara Childs, a student who designed two of the four There are several styles, like the turquoise topper, which Kangoi could easily put

would be best sellers." Tracey Whewell, the Har-

rods millinery buyer, says: The most elegant and simple hats were the most successful. It's not just about creating applause on a catwaik." Maria O'Regan, millinery

tutor at the RCA, says: The students realise this will be the kind of work that will pay their bills. They won't all be able to be Philip Treacy."

 Iain R. Webb is fashion director of Elle magazine
The hats designed by the RCA students for Kangol are being exhibited at the RCA, Kensington Gore. SW7, on March 26.

ABOVE: Second Wedding; turquoise topper with organiza trimiand quilts designed by DAGMARA CHILDS, 289.95. Powder blue acket, £629; matching skirt, £219; Tomasz Starzewski.

TOP LEFT: Media Wedding: navy and burgundy hat with rosetteand organiza trim designed by KAREN SCOTT, £119. Navy strappy dress, £589; Amanda Wakeley.

BELOW LEFT: Town Wedding: Cream boater with black sculptured straw frim designed by ABDI KANIEZ, £80. Navy shift does, £259, Jenny Packham.

BELOW RIGHT: Country Wedding: Brown flat fronted hat trimmed with berries and flowers designed by DAGMARA CHILDS, £129. Pale taupe strappy dress, £769, Helen David — English Eccentrics.

Photographs by IAIN.R. WEBB
Make-up by Mandy Winrow using Kanebo's new spring colours. Hatr by Mandy Winrow. Model: Erin All haits and clothes available from Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1.-







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Hill House Hammond

I would take more exercise, but it goes against nature

The latest health campaign tells us nothing we don't know

veryone is so cynical nowadays, so intent on seeing the worst and ridiculing the best, that I feel we should be grateful for those government. for those government bod-ies still isolated in their optimism about man's perfectability and their idealistic belief in our better

This was perfectly illustrated yesterday by a patient, courteously conducted argument on the Today programme be-Auberon Waugh and a man from the Health Education Authority. which this week launches a £9 million campaign to get people over 50 to take a little daily exercise.

As part of this wellintentioned campaign, posters, leaflets and advertisements are being called in to service to inform everyone that exercise exists and it is good for you. Waugh suggested that by the time people were 50, they knew these things. It's hard to disagree. The reasonable person would pre-sume that those who fail to take exercise are not those who lack the information about it but, rather, the desire, energy or will power

Not so the man from the HEA. For him the lazy slob is merely unenlightened and the elderly couch potato a victim of poor education: funny how all propagandists share the way they look at the world, even if the world view itself may alter. For such people, bad choices must always be ill-informed choices.

And if gentle encourage-ment fails, the HEA is ready with some scare stories about elderly people "so unfit they struggle to wash their hair", about old people marooned on their sofas long after the tele-vision has flickered into doleful blackness. "Once they had switched off the television, a quarter of older women did not have enough strength in their without using their arms."

Am I missing some-thing? Am I being insensitive about the trials of old age? But I truly can't see that needing to use your arms to get out of a sofa or chair late at night is a sign of worrying decrepitude in the elderly population. I certainly hope it isn't, because I can't be sure that I don't winch myself out of the sofa as I drag myself off to bed at night, and I am about half the age of the HEA's target

I am sure that the health of the elderly population isn't all it could be. I am furthermore convinced that £9 million could go a great way to improve it. Poverty remains the greatest cause of ill-bealth among most people, and the impoverished elderly who live in cold, damp rooms which they can ill-afford to heat might well appreciate a slight redirection of funds. (And I wonder how many more old people might take up the suggestion to walk to the shops if they weren't afraid of being in the streets in the first place.)

Even from another, radically opposed perspective - the one that says, correctly, that we live longer, healthier lives than ever before—the exercise initiative is a wasteful one. But anyway, regardless of ide-ology, I am not sure that it ever pays to lecture to

people.
This exercise campaign is no different in essence from the healthy eating campaigns that we've seen regularly. If there is anyone out there who really doesn't know that a healthy diet is one that includes fruit and vegetables, then nothing any of us says now is going make any difference. think it qualifies as "invincible ignorance".

Everyone knows that livng on sweet biscuits and fried bread is not exactly good for you; people eat-sugary, fatty, fried food because they like the taste and because it's comforting and bolstering and warming. They know better, they just don't eat better. The same is true of exercise: we all know that it's good for us; it's just that "do it, it's good for you" remains one



Nigella Lawson

of the least compelling I am not actually an antiexercise famatic. I think that

it is extraordinary how much better exercise in the one feel, and not so much is mentally. I no only thing is. I can never quite remember that in advance. In advance, all I can summon up is resent-ful, slothful dread. Walking is probably the answer: ordinary, brisk, everyday walking. But again, much as I know it'll put a spring in my step, give me better ideas and - one hopes better less, none of this knowledge necessarily pro-

blustery morning. But this disinclination to exercise is, when you come to think about it, entirely as it should be. Any exercise taken for "health" is, strictly speaking, unnecessary exercise. From a Darwinian point of view we are surely programmed thus to shun it. Whatever current notions are of health, fitness, the body beautiful. our instincts must be to conserve energy not to expend if unnecessarily. Jumping up and down in a gym or wheeling for sta-tionary miles on an exer-

pels me out of doors on a

cise bike goes against The survival of the fittest does not, after all, refer to those who spend longest at the gym, however many attempts there are to per suade us that he who is limber lives longer.



The Spice Girls, winners of two Britpop awards at Earls Court, predictably threatened to fall out of their frocks and flashed their underwear

Pass the cocoa, Liam

f is no easy task, as Lorelei Lee might have put it, for a Girl Like I to find herself instructed to go and write about the Brit Awards. For a start, I had, before Monday, only the vaguest notion of what a Brit

Award might be.
For a child of the Sixties and Seventies, I grew up in almost creepy ignorance of pop music. For ages we didn't own a telly, and then, when one did arrive, the prospect of sitting in front of it, watching Top of the Pops in the silent, disapproving presence of my father was a prospect too painful to

The onset of boyfriends brought with it a crash course in contemporary music — a short, shaming firtation with Steeleye Span, rapidly aban-doned in favour of the sulky beauties with attitude so beloved of the Old Grey Whistle Test. But then along came

motherhood, and my brief stab at cool gave way to The Wheels On The Bus on a tape loop, and being unable to stay awake until the end of The White Koom.

So one way and another, it was with some anxiety that I contemplated my stint at the Music Industry's Glittering Awards Evening. I mean.

what if I were to find myself standing next to someone from Manic Street Preachers or Blur and asking them what they did for a living? Could I be sure of being able to tell the difference between Liam and Noel Gallagher?

And most worrying of all, what on earth was I to wear to Britpop's equivalent of the Oscars. Was there a dress code? Should I find myself barred at the door for being insufficiently cool? I have spent a lifetime not trying to get into clubs in order to avoid precisely this sort of public humiliation and now here I

was, face to face with it. A glance through the pictures from last year was, frankly, not much help. Michael Jackson and Liam Gallagher attented wearing. respectively, white satin pyjamas and a football manager's sheepkin car coat. If Liam looked a shade warmly dressed for the occasion Take it off, do, I fear I should have found myself saying, had I encountered him, for you won't feel the benefit when you get outside"),

The curiously respectable truth behind a night of legendary glamour and excess at the Britpop awards

There, indeed, my luck

seemed to have changed. I

found myself standing next to

a fragrant vision, reeking of

Giorgio, with a yard-long

piguail and a six-o'clock shad-

ow that shaded into a complex-

ion of Estée Lauder's finest

chilly in a couple of strips of black cloth, held together across her exposed front with a little bit of string. The most consoling thing was a picture of

lla Yates looking exhausted, clearly suffering from the perennial mothers' problem of being unable to keep one's eyes open after 10.30, who had had the brilliant wheeze of turning up in tiara and night-ie, presumably in order to be able to pop straight into bed on returning home.

Immensely cheered by this, I settled at last on a diaphanous silk chiffon shift from Betty Jackson which, 1 thought, nextly combined sexi-

ness with practicality - fully hand-Elton had washable, should I run into some 1997 reincarnation of Sid Vicious, and with plenty of room been told for a nace warm vest underneath. to Keep a Thus clad, I followed in the Foot-

clearly

Grip on steps of the Stars, past the massed Things ranks of rain sodden photographers at Earls Court, and took my seat for a night of legendary glamour and Except that, looking around,

it all seemed curiously respectable. Acres and acres of record industry chape in near-Armani suits and strenuously witty ties, and women draped from neck to knee in drearily understated Jean Muir-style black-viscose-crepe-with-a-discreet-sparkle. Somehow, the chances of anything louche happening seemed remote.

As a bossy man with a microphone told us all to sit down, a certain air of school outing began to pervade the proceedings. So far, the nearest thing to outrageous behavour was the table manners of the tabloid showbiz hack to my left. Don't snatch, said I. Use your knife, not your fingers. If you want the bread, just ask. Don't lean across people like that. Dear oh dear, get plenty of this kind of thing at home. Perhaps something more exciting would be going on among the hordes of rent-an-adolescent Young People milling sedately about looking, well, scary, in a floral

the Spice Girls showed their knickers and felf out of their frocks, and Mark Morrison surrounded himself with stripping policewomen and thingy from Manic Street Preachers dedicated his award to comprehensive schools everywhere but somehow the rain outside seemed to have seeped into the proceedings.

negligée

revival specs.

Nana Mouskouri

rose petal, who appointed himself my guide for the evening. Look, he said, there The party spirit wasn't are Ant and Dec. Now that one exactly encouraged up on the stage stuffing herself by the minatory comback into her frock is Sexy pering presence of Spice. Oooh yes, there she was, hitching up her strapless with his shorn head and red sequinned bail-gown with glittering eye, resembles one of that thumbs-in-the-armpits the more alarming Old Testament prophets, and who had gesture so beloved of 1950s debutantes. And next to her clearly been warned, after last

year's excesses, to Keep A Grip

on Things.
Halfway through the show
he launched into a terrifying
lecture on the evils of drink which put a firm lid on any frenzied bacchanale anyone might have been planning. Skunk Anansie's PVC-clad backing dancers mimed sex on stage; the Artist Formerly Known As The Artist Former-ly Known as Prince (now to be addressed simply as The Artist) hopped gamely about in his elevator heels — but all in vain. We in the cheap seats screamed politely as required and otherwise sat with our hands tidily in our laps. Up in the stalls, a foot tapped.

The atmosphere was what you might expect from a Terence Rattigan matince in Cheltenham. As the Bee Gees doddered into a routine carefully choreographed so as not to disarrange their remaining hairs, I made for the exit and the suddenly rather racyseeming prospect of a nice cup of cocoa and a rousing chorus of The Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round.



Networking - Lisa Marie



Posing - Gina Gee



Legging it — Itsi

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A story of heroism that never died

Army hammered at the gates of Budanest and Budapest and pro-Nazi death squads roamed the Hungarian capital, a Jewish couple appealed to a neutral Swedish diplomat for help. The woman was about to give birth, but no hospital would admit her. The Swede offered the use of his flat and slept in the corridor

while a baby girl was born.

That "baby" is today Yvonne Singer, now a middle aged mother of three, who will be presented to the Queen after the nonarch unveils a monument in London's Great Cumberland Place to honour Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who saved scores of thousands of Hungarian Jews during the Holocaust.

For London, the unveiling will be a ghly umusual event — a neutral Swede coming the ranks of British heroes such as Wellington, Nelson and Churchill. Wallenberg, who was swallowed up by the Soviet prison system after his lifesaving exploits in Budapest, carns his place as a universal symbol of individual resistance to the two great tyrannies of John Bierman on London's tribute to a man who defied the Nazis

the 20th century - Nazism and comminism. But for Mrs Singer, the unveiling has special significance. It was her parents, Tibor and Agnes Vandor, to whom Wallenberg loaned his flat in 1944.

After the war, the Vandors emigrated to Canada and tried to bury the secret of their origins. They brought Yvonne up as a Christian and tried to discourage her when she tell in love with a Jew. But she defied them and "converted" to marry him, only to discover the truth about her origins when she read a 1981 biography of Wallenberg. Today she and her husband are lecturers at Toronto's York Univer-

"It's a wonderful thing that at last Raoul Wallenberg is being given the honour he deserves," she said yesterday. "But what a cruel irony that having saved so many, nobody saved him. I hope this

disclosing what really happened to him."

Apparently suspecting that he was a capitalist spy, the Russians took Wallenberg to Moscow for questioning when Budapest fell to the Red Army in 1945. After denying that he was in their hands, in 1957 the Russians claimed that he had died of a heart attack in prison. But fellow prisoners suggested that Wallenberg was alive at least into the late 1970s. His family believes that he may still be alive, aged 84, in the Gulag, the victim of a cover-up or a colossal bureaucratic bungle. That is why the Wallenberg statue is being called a

The only members of his immediate family still alive are his half-siblings, Nina Lagergren and Guy von Dardel. Both will be present at the unveiling. The Wallenberg monument shows the

monument and not a memorial.

Swede against an 11ft wall of 100.000 "schutzpasses" - the bogus Swedish passports which he issued to Jews under threat of deportation to death camps. John Bierman is author of the Wallenberg biography Righteons Gentile (Penguin Books).

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Alan Coren

History repeats itself: the first time as sitcom, the second time as farce

annot describe how queer it feels, this morning, to think that even as my own fraught pen trembles above the importunate paper, desperately seeking the right words for an exceedingly tricky situation, HM the Queen's might, a mere five miles south of mine, be doing the very same. I see her, now staring at the page before her on the south of mine, be doing the very same. I see her, now staring at the page before her on the desk, now staring at the drizzled garden beyond, just as I am doing, gnawing the lip, racking the brain, and reaching yet again for the gurgling percolator beside her in the earnest hope that another jolt of caffeine might do the trick.

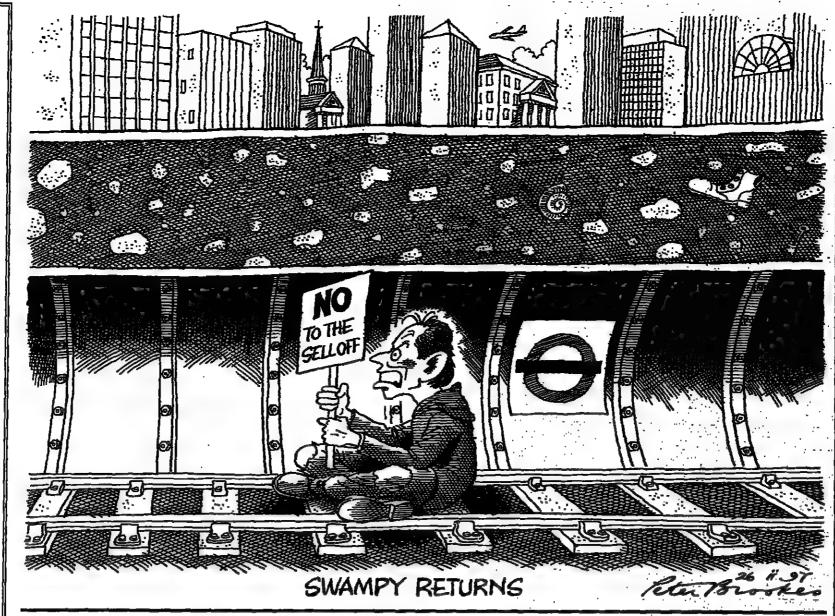
My own earnest hope is that it will not. Because I want, when I find them, to get my words in first. I want my gracious Sovereign still to be sitting there, undecided, when, tomorrow, this column hits the streets, on the offchance that at least one of its readers might have access to at least one of her ears. Because I want to put words in her pen, before it is too late. I want it to deny assent to the Duke of York's request to allow his ex-Duchess to move back under his Sunninghill roof. I want it to explain that if the Queen did assent, then all three of them would need their heads examined. And I want it to tack on a salutary, albeit Marxist, PS, recalling history's habit, when repeating itself, of appearing the first time as tragedy, the second as farce.

Or, rather, in this case, the first time as soap opera, the second as sitcom. For that is inevitably what would happen should Sarah return, bag and baggage, to what was once dubbed Southyork by wags who saw the Lego eyesore and the marital shenanigans that went on, within it and without, as "Dallas By Appointment", serial hogwash in which the tabloid public could sluice itself, episode by preposterous episode, until the plot finally ran out of steam, and the end debits rolled.

And how we cheered when they did, and hugged ourselves, and waved our scarves, and threw our hats in the air! Had there been a pitch to run onto, we should have run onto it, because we thought it was all over. And so it seemed to be, until last weekend, when the horrifying news broke of the couple's request that the Queen allow them once more to share the same little nest, albeit in separate wings. Horrifying, since, should she consent, it will not be Southfork this time around, it will be Erzanmine, because it will no longer be Dallas, it will be My Wife Next Door, it will be Three's Company, it will be any one of those umpteen dire sitcoms with just one sit and no com whatever which have for so long blighted our screens with such nudge and snigger as can be winkled from nothing more than the close proximity of exes.

an you not taste the manna as it falls into the begging bowls of hack and paparazzo? Can you not see them creeping Berkshire's ditches, dangling in its trees, poking lenses through its knot-holes. dialling celiphones from its shrubs, waving chequebooks at its tradesfolk? Do you, immersed as you have all been in the tease and innuendo of the are-they-or-aren't-they genre, not know what you would be in for? Oh. look, here is an infra-red snap of a man tiptoeing a midnight lawn, who might it be, are those pyjamas, is that champagne, oh, cock an ear, was that a joint giggle from one upstairs window, or merely two separate giggles from two different windows, or, hold on, might it have been two separate joint ones, the public has the right to know, let us offer that gas inspector a nice new Toyota, let us send that daily on a sunscaked Benidorm fortnight, let us find a big blonde for that postman, hang about, gimme them binoculars, see that washing-line, I swear those are navy-issue Y-fronts hanging next to that bra, hold the front page, "Big Flap on at Sunninghill". I like it, no wait, stone me. that's him going round there with a cup, he's only run out of sugar, hasn't he, gimme that camera, remake the front page, "Andy Still Sweet on Fergie, Could it be Tea for Two?". I

And there, I fear, space compels me to leave it: though, Lord knows, there are many more words to find, I must perforce lay down my pen. Praying that when Her Majesty comes to lay down hers, mine will not have been taken up in vain.



Burying the family silver

from the fog. At the election, a radical reformist party will confront a deeply conservative one. A party almost reckless in its zest for change will oppose a party that feels the nation is bruised enough and needs a rest. The radical (or Conservative) party is in government. The conserva-

tive (or Labour) party is in opposition. This paradox was on vivid display yesterday as the Cabinet announced that it wants to "privatise" London's Under-ground. The use of the word is eccentric. Selling trading companies such as Brit-ish Steel, the Naafi or the Stationery Office to sink or swim in the competitive sector is one thing. Such activities were inappropriate for government and should never darken Whitehall again.

Selling the assets of a monopoly public service is different. In theory a perverse political act, denying taxpayers the long-term yield on assets built up at their expense. Such privatisation has become fashionable for two reasons: a Treasury that cannot handle productive investment and ministers who cannot run a whelk stall without falling foul of the unions or their own ambition. (Michael Howard's attempts to run prisons are hilariously documented this week by his sacked official. Derek Lewis.) The only way to be free of such plagues, say the privatisers, is to sell the assets to someone else.

You can sell assets, but you cannot sell politics. British Gas or Railtrack may strut in the City as private companies. but their true chairmen are the regulators. Last year the Ofgas director, Clare Spottiswoode, announced the British Gas five-year distribution plan. She, not the company's chairman, fixed its permitted rate of return, its capital spending and its charges. She had the company bound and gagged. She also cut gas prices, shifting roughly a pound a week from the pockets of shareholders to those of gas consumers. She is not

accountable to anyone. There is nothing new in the abuse of public utilities. In the 1980s, Lord Lawson treated the gas and electricity industries in the same way. He raised energy prices and used the profit to cut income tax. He called it a "negative external finance limit" and the industries howled. It was classic assetstripping. Tony Blair intends to do the same. He calls it a utilities windfall tax. The fact is, a monopoly is a monopoly is a monopoly. As Marx said, everybody Talk of privatising the Underground is a mistake — the Government will

always have to pay for it in the end

would like one, including politicians. There is nothing new under the sun. As far as I can see, London Underground "after privatisation" will be as nationalised as before. The Transport Secretary, Sir George Young, yesterday insisted that nothing would change through-ticketing, station interchanges, travelcards, concessionary fares and safety standards will all be determined by a central government regulator, as will fares. What this shadowy individual abused investment programme is un-collapse of the London Tube. Sir clear. Sir George has negotiated a novel George's company will be private only

proceeds from privatisation will not go into general revenue, but back to the company to pay for modernisation. This is the pro-gramme that last

month the same Treasury cut. Some £700 million which Labour says it would borrow. from the City (making

it public borrowing) would, under the Tories, be redefined as non-public. The gambit is that rather than get interest for its money, the City would be given an entire Underground. Rather than underwrite a gilt-edged investment in an existing asset, the Treasury is prepared to give the asset free to anyone who will improve it. I cannot work out if this short-termism is ingenuity or sophistry.
It must be the greatest "sale of family

When this £700 million has been used up, the new private Underground company (or companies) will of course return to the Government to ask for more. There is no way for the private sector to find the billions needed for the overdue cross-London and north-south relief tunnels: the only way to end overcrowding on the Tube. There is no mystery to this. The story of Britain's private railways was always one of property development. New lines were financed by appreciating land assets. When they ran out of suburbs to exploit, the buccaneering underground com-panies in London simply demanded government money to finance further expansion. In 1933 they became the first nationalised industry. The London Passenger Transport Board was a public company, but it still had private share-holders who received dividends. Yet still it could not finance its investment. By the outbreak of war, the public company was bankrupt, saved from receivership only by re-nationalisation.

roment will risk ti deal with the Treasury. Under it, the in name and constitution, it will act as a

de facto management subcontractor to his department. This is what happens to London Underground today. The company's revenue, and thus its profit, will be secure, fixed by the annual fares negotiation. London's infrastructure. will ultimately remain.

at the mercy of the Treasury. Nothing

nstead, the benefits of yesterday's decision must lie elsewhere in whether a new board can find the efficiency savings to cover dividends and the higher cost of borrowing (above the government grant). To sceptics, utilities privatisation has become mostly an exercise in one-off abour-cost reduction. Staff are sacked the share price rises and the monopolists settle down to "sweat the franchise" This model predicts that the service degenerates to the point where politics

forces the government to intervene. The risk of this is the greater if, as with British Rail, the monopoly is split horizontally between operators and the owner of the track and property. The operator has no incentive to make longterm investments, while the track owner has no contact with the customer. Connoisseurs of dud privatisations should study the past week on the

Waterloo to Bournedouth line. The private operator, South-West Trains, was casually sweating its franchise by laying off drivers. Railtrack was casually mending its rails during Monday's rush hour.

We are becoming wiser in the behav-iour of "privatised" monopolies. These are not private, competitive or risky industries in which companies so bank-rupt and directors lose their jobs. They are "parastatal" monopolies. Govern-ment can franchise bits of them and inject elements of competition. The private entrepreneur's role can effect a swingeing efficiency-drive and sell out or cash his options. The government can struggle to control him by regulation. Investment can be redefined as offpublic-sector. But everybody (except the Treasury) knows that it is as secure as gut-edged. The security is a public service revenue flow - and the fact that no government will ever let the service go bankrupt.

It is not privatisation that has been updated under John Major but nationalisation. This is no bad thing. Neonationalisation is an advance on its predecessor. The performance of most British utilities is vastly better than two decades ago, and vastly better than their continental counterparts. If the sceptics are right and this is due to a one-off cut. in labour costs, so be it. Corporatist Germany has yet to find a better way of modernising its public services. Neonationalisation puts a new energy into public companies. Or, as the late Nicholas Ridley said, "Utilities which we have privatised are more easily controlled than when they are in the public sector."

If Whitehall dogma requires that the Underground can be modernised only extravagantly, then there is no alterna tive. Labour's proposal to let it borrow in the City is unlikely to best the dogma. Where successive Tory Chancellors and transport ministers have failed, Gordon Brown will not succeed. The Underground is so unloved in Whitehall that it must change its corporate status if it is to achieve even modest progress. But that is just a beginning. When the fire-sale is over and the £700 million spent, we shall be back to 1933. The begging-bowl will be out. As long as central government refuses to let Londoners pay for a new Tube network themselves, taxpayers at large will have to foot the bill. This may seem unfair. But that is what we mean by nationalisation.

The Good Samaritan of Sweden

Wallenberg wasn't alone, says Michael

Pinto-Duschinsky

hen the Queen unveils the Raoul Wallenberg statue today in London's West End, it will be an appropriate memorial to a man who saved tens of thousands of lives. Aged only 32, he spent the last six months of his free life in Budapest on a mission to rescue its 200,000 Jews from the chutches of Adolf Eichmann and his Humerican Navi associates.

Hungarian Nazi associates.

Wallenberg was able to enter Budapest on July 9, 1944, as a temporary Swedish diplomat, because his country was neutral in the war. By then 430,000 Hungarian Jews had been deported to Auschwitz in a mere eight weeks. Only the Jews of the capital remained. Six months later, when they captured the series forced 100,000 of city, the Soviet forces found 100,000 of Budapest's Jews alive. Many owed their lives to Wallenberg's efforts. It is to him that I probably owe my own life. On January 17, 1945, days after the

liberation, Wallenberg was summoned to meet the Soviet authorities and disappeared. The Russians have still not explained exactly how and when he died. Yet the unveiling caremony could help to perpensite a number of other illusions about his life. It will bring to the fore a vital question: if a single diplomat like Wallenberg could save so many, why did the Allies do so little? Why did they refuse even to bomb the railway lines to Auschwitz or to attack the Anschwitz crematoria? The accusation is summed up at Washington's Holocaust Memorial Museum. There, a single letter of August 1944 rejecting the bombing of Auschwitz is on display: it bears the signature of John McCloy, assistant secretary of the US Army.

In isolation, this document is misleading the secretary of the US Army.

ing it was the American President who in June 1944 played the decisive role in stopping the flow of Jewish deportation suppose me now or Jewish deportation trains from Hungary. Had Roosevelt not acted two weeks before Wallenberg arrived in Budapest, there would have been no Jews left for him to rescue. Only on June 24, 1944 did the first thorough evidence reach Washington that the deported Jews were being gassed at Australia. The reaction in Washington was immediate and effective Within ten was immediate and effective. Within two days, the Hungarian Regent, Admiral Horiny, received an ultimatum. The Americans undertook to bomb Budapes unless the deportations were halted. That very day, June 25, Horthy ordered scheduled for July 5, to be cancelled. British and American bombing raids over Budapest on June 29 and July 2 deepened the Hungarian leader's conviction that the Allies were in earnest. Eichmann was expelled from Budapest. Though the British and American Air Forces later turned down the proposed bombing of the Auschwitz crematoria (a decision open to criticism), the threat to bomb Budapest and achieved the most important hamanitarian objective —

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for the next three months, Budapest's Jews were spared. But as the Russian forces approached, Hitler made a renewed effort to complete his Final Solution: An operation by SS Major Otto Skorzeny deposed Horthy, and installed a hooligan government of Hungarian Nazis. Eichmann returned to Budapest in October 1944. During these final weeks, deportation trains and gas chambers were no longer available, so death marches, drownings and shootings were instigated. Together with the Swiss diplomat Charles Lutz and Angelo Rotta, the Panal Nuncio, Wallenberg now carried out the exploits for which he is being commemorated. But the action of the Allies should not be forgotten. Every Jew who owes his life to Wallenberg, Lutz or Rotta owes it equally to Roosevelt.

stopping deportations from the city.

Today's ceremonies may foster another illusion. The presence of ambassadors and dignatories from Germany and Hungary, welcome as an act of reconciliation, should not blind us to the shabby way their Governments continue to treat the Jews whom Wallenberg saved. Few of the willing executioners who served in the German legation in Budapest or in the SS in 1944 were punished. Many continued their diplomatic careers. The SS police chief in Hungary. Otto Winkelmann, and the SS spymaster, Wilhelm Hoetil, year rehabilitated. Skorzeny "escaped" Allied custody, worked under CIA patronage for the Egyptian secret services, and ended by purchasing an estate in County Kildare. The head of the German legation in Budapest, Dr Veesemnayer, served less than three years of his 20-year sentence. Reporting from Landsberg Prison to Professor MacCartney, a fellow of All Souls, he asserted the destruction of Hungary's Jews was not a matter of black or white; the tasks of 1944 had had the aim of creating a "United Europe".

By contrast, the surviving victims have found it almost impossible to obtain recompense. Now in their seventies and eighties, some live in poverty in Hungary. Various legal technicalnies have blocked claims by former slave labourers against German concerns which acted as slavemasters - such as Siemens, IG Farben and Flick. The Hungarian authorities waited nearly 50 years to make some token gestures. Nazi victims face bureaucratic mountains to obtain molebills of compensation. One survivor, who was forced into hiding in Budapest for nearly a year in 1944-5. finally obtained less than £60. Another was awarded an annuity of £22. It is still not possible to close the book on the Nazi oppressors of European Jews, Wallenberg's battle on behalf of the persecuted

Euro warmer

TEMPERATURE-SENSITIVE underpants for all schoolchildren is the aim of Eluned Morgan, 30, the Labour MEP for Mid and West Wales. Presenting a report by the European Parliament this week. Miss Morgan will say that hauling on electronic underwear could become as much a part of the schoolchild's morning routine as porridge and satchel packing.

The theory is that by responding to temperature controls in the classroom, the pants can ensure that pupils are at their most



M

Morgan: pants project

comfortable and ready to learn. Tired of being beaten round the head with square bananas and oblong sausages, the European Parliament has decided that honesty is the best policy, so it has pushed its underpant case up to the front in what is a broader report on how best to use modern technologies in the classroom. Miss Morgan believes that technology is now so advanced that children need never fail exams again.

Aside from the obvious risks of electrocution below decks, Miss Morgan is optimistic about her hot-pants for all scheme. The future of information technology is fraught with many dangers," she says. "but also offers fantastic opportunities." I warm to her.

Family seats

THERE was an endearing moment in the Commons vesterday as a father asked his own son a question. Aside from the handwringing interventions of Peter Bottomley when his wife Virginia is taking questions, such family moments are rare in the House. Sir David Mitchell, the MP for Hampshire North-West, rose to



consult Andrew Mitchell, the MF for Gedling, and a junior social security minister, opening his question with the line: "Would my honourable and filial triend . . .

New fancies

AN autographed manuscript of what may well be Robert Browning's last poem has cropped up and will be sold by Phillips in London next month. A meditation on the transience of life and the presence of death - Browning was not the man to go to for a drink and a filthy joke - it was found in his blotter after his death in 1889 at the Palazzo Rezzonico in Venice. Until now Browning's last poem was conisdered to be Asol-

ando: Fancies and Facts. This latest text is a rendering of an "Inscription on an Ancient Sundial at Newquay, Cornwall"



RIDING up the Mall in her Irish State Coach yesterday, the Queen seemed to be having difficulty conentrating on her guest beside her, President Weizman of Israel. She spent much of the journey looking concernedly over his shoulder at two dark-suited men ponting in

res in it

In your eyes

Diplomatic Protection Group.

THAT FINE actress Gina Latin legs. Lollobrigida has accepted Fidel Castro's invitation to Cuba for the 30th anniversary banquet in Havana of the Cohiba cigar but she intends to have a food taster in tow. This is to settle a score. Lollobrigida is an old friend of Castro, who visited her recently at . her house in Rome, To her fury, the Cuban dictator turned up for the private dirner with bombsniffing hounds, hairy-palmed bodyguards ... and a food taster. Much hand-waving and pot-llinging ensued. Signora Lollobri-

gida's resident cook was outraged by this slur on his pasta-cooking



abilities, and it took hours of silken tact from the film actress before he would return to his stoves after Castro left

• Users of the 123 Launderette in London W9 are to have their own artist in residence, courtesy of the avant-garde Serpentine Gallery in Hyde Park. Sarah Cole. who photographs bras, will be holding workshops about the launderette as a community resource for people without washing machines.

Ways to preserve our grand houses

Sir, May I make two points arising

out of Simon Jenkins's admirable

piece, "Stately homes of England in

First, I doubt whether today's own-

ers struggle through "long and lone-ly" weekdays, as did their forefathers

in the 1930s and after the last war. Since the Historic Houses Association

was founded by Lord Montagu and

others in 1973, greater sympathy has been shown by successive govern-ments towards the real difficulties of

owners. As a result. I believe that the

families named by Mr Jenkins - and

many others - can reasonably look

forward to passing on to their succes-

sors a relatively comfortable inheri-

means a British monopoly. In many

other European countries, from Spain

to Sweden, these houses and estates have suffered - and often continue to

suffer - at least as badly from

changed economic conditions and

from crushing taxation. Nevertheless

a study of the awards made in recent

years by Europa Nostra, a European

heritage body on the council of which I serve, vividly illustrates the success-

ful efforts made by owners all over Europe to match the widely admired

Sir. Simon Jenkins is right to endorse

the salvation of stately homes, but I

question the need to polarise the issue

as being a choice between old houses

and new ones, in favour of the latter.

focus, many of the adjoining parks,

warehouses, outbuildings and plea-

sure gardens which have been lost to

us through fire, dry rot, window tax or

the agricultural restrictions of the

1870s and 1930s would have been left

to decay even further. Such estates fre-

quently offer the best opportunity for

the construction of a new house on the

An average of only one new stately

home per English county per decade

has been built since the Second World

War. A less restrictive policy, especial-

ly in regard to the old sites, but still

with the highest requirements of

architectural merit, would bring new

money to the restoration of what re-

scale of its predecessor.

Without the original house as their

British contribution.

14 Eaton Place, SW1.

From Mr A. C. Tinsley

Yours sincerely,

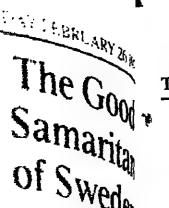
M. HERBERT,

February 22.

Secondly, the grand house is by no

From Mr Michael Herbert

the lurch" (February 22).



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John Brownson

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DOWNING STREET CHAIRS

Who will sit where if Labour wins the election?

If Downing Street changes hands this year, will Downing Street change? While all the outward effort of the Labour Party is towards winning the election, much work is going on behind the scenes about how to make the office of the Prime Minister more effective for Tony Blair. As our Whitehall Editor reports today, some outlines of a Labour Number 10 can already be seen.

Planning of this kind may seem hubristic - both to superstitious supporters of Mr Blair and to Conservatives who continue to hope for reelection. But for a would-be prime minister that must be a worthwhile risk. A regular problem of incoming governments is their inability to hit the ground running. All too often they look back and rue how they wasted the first year or two in finding their way while the Civil Service ran the country for them. Advance preparation for government may prove more useful than any number of opposition policy documents.

A Prime Minister's personal style of government is a critical determinant of success. Margaret Thatcher was always a dominating personality with an encyclopaedic grasp of policy detail. But her decisive and effective tenure at Number 10 owed much to having the right advisers in the right places at the right time. Sir John Hoskyns, John Redwood, and Ferdinand Mount in Downing Street, backed at different times by a broad range of outsiders, played a significant part in her rise. Eventually her ministers found her too authoritarian; had she listened at the end as she had at the beginning, she might have

John Major, in response to his colleagues' concerns, made government more collegiste. His advisers became more concerned with tactics than strategy. This certainly contributed to the drift and indecision that has marked the past five years. Mr Blair is being careful in revealing his plan for doing better; he knows that many of the men and women working for a Labour victory will be working too for their own top jobs thereafter; some, he knows, will be disappointed. But one aspect of his ambition seems clear. ment of the Downing Street chairs.

Thatcher is a better model than Major, thus a stronger Downing Street, giving more direction from the centre, is required.

Two problems are eternal at Number 10. One is the lack of co-ordination between the political and the official sections - which often leads civil servants to be sucked into politics and political appointees into official matters. Mr Blair is known to be influenced by American models and may appoint a chief of staff to be a senior political link between the two. The second is the failure to raise the Prime Minister's eyes beyond the immediate week ahead; the best solution here is a cadre of outsiders, united by commitment to the leader's ideas, who can help to identify future obtacles and opportunities.

Al this is much easier thought in Opposition than put into action in government. Success in practice often depends more on human natures than anything else. What turf-battles might a new chief of staff fight with the head of the policy unit? Will Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's tough press secretary, switch smoothly from election fighter to explainer of government? Will Mr Blair find themes around which devoted Thatcher-like advisers will want to fight. Any "project" can so easily degenerate into battles for the Prime Minister's ear.

How to reduce the traditional departmental feudalism is another familiar difficulty. Mr Blair is thinking of making the Cabinet Secretary "a whip in Whitehall", ensuring that government priorities are not lost sight of in the in-fighting. Another idea is to replace some cabinet committees with taskforces of ministers and civil servants on issues which cross departments.

None of these reforms will by themselves make government work better. Edward Heath and Harold Wilson loved tinkering with the machinery of government but because they had so few strategic objectives, little was achieved. A Prime Minister with a sense of priorities and the strength of will to stick to them is the first prerequisite of good modern government, whatever the arrange-

INTO OXFORD

The admissions reform that is failing its test

Oxford University has long been a proud in this respect was far outweighed by the home of lost causes. The latest is its scheme, benefits. It allowed academics to spot home of lost causes. The latest is its scheme for increasing the proportion of state school entrants by reforming its admissions system. Two years ago the University decided to abolish its entrance examination on the grounds that it discriminated in favour of those from fee-paying schools. This argument was always rather curious; some 45 per cent of applicants exercised their right not to sit such papers. It was deemed, nonetheless, that the mere presence of a a special Oxford entrance was elitist; a new system centred on A-level grades, as used by other universities, was intended to produce a more egalitarian result.

In fact, the percentage of places offered to state school students has not risen; indeed, it has slipped slightly from 43.6 per cent to 43 per cent. It will probably fall further once those who fail to achieve the requested three A-grades this summer are excluded. There are reasons for suspicion, that these statistics will not shift significantly unless supplemented by further, equally dubious; manipulation.

In so far as the nature of its intake should be a matter of concern — itself a debatable assumption - Oxford's dilemma lies less in the proportion of state school aspirants it admits than in the raw numbers of those seeking entry. The dreaming spires are still seen as intellectually and socially unattainable by very large numbers of talented teenagers. An optional entrance examination may have been part of this problem but

surely not a significant source. Whatever harm the exam may have done

students who possessed considerable ability but had not been well taught. The allegedly progressive alternative, based on A-level and interview, allows for much less subtlety. The small section of the student population which achieves maximum marks at A-level . is dominated by independent or grammar schools. These pupils can also be expected to produce polished performances at interview. The proportion admitted from the state sector in coming years could easily stagnate.

It is unlikely that this will be allowed to hannen. It is far more probable that, overtly or covertly, a two-tier structure will emerge. Candidates from the state sphere will be asked for lower A-level marks than their feepaying contemporaries. Many grant maintained schools and comprehensives in middle class areas have more in common with the private sector than with the troubled institutions of the inner cities. But distinctions like that would be missed in the desire to drive up overall numbers.

The reconstruction of the university entrance exam would be welcome but is, unfortunately, improbable. The onus instead should be on colleges and departments to design alternatives of their own. That has been tried this year in certain quarters but has proved patchy and confusing for school and student alike. Some form of additional written test, perhaps designed to be less daunting for those taking it, needs to be encouraged. Oxford should not try too hard to be "just another university". The danger is that it might succeed.

FUNERAL TEARS

When good men and good times are over

The Chinese leadership did its best to provent undisciplined squads of emotion at the funeral of Deng Xiaoping. The mourners were handpicked, the crowds regimented, the ceremonies carefully staged. But not even the Communist Party could hide the overpowering emotion of Deng's distraught widow, or stifle the uncontrolled weeping by his chair-bound son. Surprisingly, such scenes of spontaneous grief were broadcast across the nation.

Widows are allowed - indeed, expected -to weep at funerals. In Western tradition, the passing of a statesman is enhanced, at least on television, by the brief but dignified brushing away of tears. How often have the merciless photographs of Jacqueline Kennedy at her husband's graveside been reproduced in history books. Even at the height of Communist secrecy about their leaders' private lives, Andropov's widow led his funeral cortege - intriguing Western analysts who had not known that the former KGB chief's wife was still alive.

Stoic, tearless obsequies, however, are peculiarly modern and European, or rather, Phorth European. Less inhibited cultures glorify the expression of grief. Great heroes of the classical past were expected to give vent to their emotions. Achilles wept with Priam over Hector, whom he had killed in his rage, remembering his dear friend Patroclus. Niobe, "all tears", wept so much for her sons and daughters that she turned into a pillar of stone - which still wept.

in the Middle East, wailing and ululating are the norm when menfolk depart. The Shia tradition is even more uninhibited: so frenzied were the crowds that bade farewell to Ayatollah Khomeini that order and dignity were lost, as well as the balance of the catafalque, and the body of the revered spiritual leader toppled on to the ground. Funerals are highly ritualised occasions,

times when deep-seated cultures and long neglected religious observances forcefully assert themselves. They are an unusual combination of stylised public ceremony and spontaneous, human emotion. The second often gives force to the first, even at the expense of intrusion on the privacy of the mourners. It is, inevitably, the touch that the cameras now seek in this age of promiscuous emotion. President Clinton understands this. A man never afraid to show his feelings, he knows the electoral poignancy of grief, and has, according to observers, perfected the technique of weeping with just

the eye that catches the camera. Nations often weep because they were conditioned to worship the departed as gods - such as Stalin, or Kim Il Sung. Or they may mourn the passing of an age. Some know that with the death of their patrons, the good times are over for them. In China, all these seelings came into play.

'MPs here only

for the tourists From Mr Richard Munday

Sir. The passage of the Firearms Bill may prove to be an electoral disaster for the Tories, but what it shows about our democratic process is more profoundly serious. Aside from the frontbench spokesmen, virtually every speaker in both Houses of Parliament excoriated the futility and injustice of the Bill. But their constant lament was that parliamentary debate had not been devoted to the Culien report before the legislation was defined.

The implication was that once the party positions were taken up and the whips went to work, there was little that they could really do. In what Lord Hailsham described as our "elective dictatorship". MPs were, as the Lab-our Whip John Cummings once re-marked, "only here for the tourists". Parliament, which was once the brake on the whim of government, has been reduced to its executive tool.

In the appeals voiced both in the Lords and Commons for the injustices of the Bill to be overturned in the European Court, and Lord Stoddart's call, even before the Bill was passed, for a grass-roots campaign to seek its repeal, was the admission that our system of parliamentary checks and balances had failed. More signally than in the poll tax demonstrations, one sees now in the growing marches of the Sportsman's Association a shift of the democratic forum.

A show of hands among 12,000 shooters at a rally on January 11 revealed that almost none had been to a demonstration before. Their presence on the streets was a mark of the atrophy of parliamentary representation; and the 25,000 protesters announced by the organisers to have been at the repeal march yesterday were a re-minder that the true purpose of Par-liament was government by consent.

Yours sincerely, RICHARD MUNDAY, Camwell Hall, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire. February 24.

Nato enlargement

From Sir Bryan Cartledge

Sir, The most depressing feature of the current debate on Nato enlargement (letters, February 12, 17) is the extent to which it is being conducted over the heads of those most directly concerned, namely the Polish, Hungarian and Czech peoples, and their democratically elected Governments. These Governments have decided that their new liberties will best be secured in parmership and alliance with the more mature and stronger European democracies

Prominent in their historical memories are partitions (Poland, including the fourth partition in 1939), ahandonment and occupation (Yalta, 1945) and repression (Hungary in 1849 and 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968). Looking eastwards, they can perhaps be forgiven for not fully sharing Western optimism that stable democracies are developing in Russia and Ukraine, let alone

At Munich and at Yaita the West incurred a debt of honour to Central Europe which there is now an opportunity to redeem. But this is not just a matter of sentiment. The future stability of what, historically, has been the most unstable region of Europe would be best served by the unequivocal statement (Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty) that a threat to any of the three new democracies will be treated as a threat to the Alliance.

Russian policies, in both the Tsarist and the communist eras, have always shown readiness to observe a "stoo" sign when it has been sufficiently large and legible. No legitimate Russian interest will be impaired if the sign is now erected on the eastern, rather than western, frontiers of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

Yours faithfully, BRYAN CARTLEDGE British Ambassador to Hungary 1980-83; to the Soviet Union, 1985-88). Jasmine House, Holton, Oxford.

From Captain John Dobson. RN (retd)

Sir, The sirens of caution about the enlargement of Nato contained in your leader and letters today are misguided. The countries of Eastern Europe clearly perceive a threat from Russia, albeit in the medium term, and this threat consists of both capability and intention.

The Russian Defence Minister. General Igor Rodionov, "the butcher of Tbilisi", is largely unreformed. He was Commandant of the General Staff Academy for a long period prior to being elevated in July 1996 to Defence Minister, and during those five years he had enormous influence over the ideology of several generations of senior officers from all Services.

This is why Russian intentions will remain worrying to those countries aspiring to Nato throughout even a benign post-Yeltsin administration. Nato should move quickly to embrace these countries before the inevitable build-up of Russian capability as its economy grows stronger.

Procrastination is by far the more

dangerous alternative.

Yours faithfully, J. DOBSON (Naval Attache, British Embassy, Moscow, 1991-94), 151 Ashley Gardens, SWI. February 17.

Business letters, page 29

Call to reconsider evidence proposal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 8171-782 5000

From the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, and others

Sir, The proposal before Parliament under the new Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act whereby evidential material in scrious criminal cases need only be retained for three years after conviction is insidious and should be dropped.

The appalling tragedy of the Bridgewater case, following the Guildford Four and Maguire cases with which we were closely involved for several years, and other similar cases, reveals the persisting inability of our criminal justice system to root out and remedy genuine miscarriages of justice at an early stage.

We hope the new Criminal Cases Review Commission will prove itself capable of getting to the truth in such cases more quickly and thereby help

to restore the battered reputation of our Criminal Appeals system.

But the Commission cannot even begin this formidable task unless all the evidence in cases which may be referred to it in future has been conscientiously preserved. The convic-tions of the Guildford Four and the Maguires would never have been quashed if such a three-year rule had been applied.

To introduce one now would be irresponsible beyond belief. We urge the Home Secretary to think again.

BASIL HUME. ROY JENKINS, MERLYN-REES, SCARMAN, Archbishop's House, Westminster, SWI. February 24.

Yours faithfully.

'German-baiting' over Rifkind row

From Mr Chalm Bermant

Sir, There is nothing wrong in the use of the expression "the Jew Rifkind" in a German paper, but there is everything wrong in the outcry it has provoked (report, February 22; letters, February 24).

As you have noted yourself, the expression doesn't sound as harsh in German as in English: there is something mildly ironic in the sound of a practising Jew evoking Luther to dinch an argument. So the reference

was in no way gratuitous. One might have been troubled by the use of the word in an irresponsible or racist publication, whereas the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung is one of the most respected papers in

It has nothing to apologise for, but I'm beginning to feel that both the FAZ and Germany are owed an apology by the way some commentators have treated the incident in the British

There are people who will never miss an opportunity to go in for a bit of gramitous German-baiting, and if the opportunity does not arise they

Yours faithfully. CHAIM BERMANT. 18 Hill Rise, NWIL February 24.

From Senior Dr Albrecht Weber

Sir, It seems very strange to me that a politician may not quote freely any author irrespective of his or the author's religious background. In that sense. Wiegel in the normally excellent Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung was

Lots of Christians quote time and again in their speeches Jewish authors; why may not Jews quote Chris-On the other hand I would hope

ill-advised, open to misunderstanding

and is therefore to be deeply regretted

that the German public might be made aware of the great and positive contribution of Jews to society here in Great Britain. By realising what Jews nowadays contribute, for example, to the arts, journalism, medicine, moral deliberations, politics or science in Great Britain, my fellow Germans could gain a deeper understanding of the huge loss suffered by Europe, including German society, through the Holocaust.

I can't share the interpretation of Ms Wiegel's article as anti-Semitic. In all my 46 years spent in Germany prior to my move to England I met but two people of clearly anti-Semitic attitude. They were of the generation which had been tainted by the Nazi propaganda under Hitler.

some influence in the far-right extremist movement in Germany nowadays, this group is a tiny minority and has no substantial influence on the German establishment. The generation of young intellectuals to which Ms Wiegel belongs is full of deepest regret for the Holocaust and unreservedly committed to friendship with the Jewish people.

Yours faithfully, A. WEBER (Senior of the German-speaking Evangelical-Lutheran Synod in 78 Station Road, SW13.

February 24.

strengthened.

from the old one.

Lorries and bridges

From Mr N. G. Walker

Sir, In the last paragraph of his letter (February 21) David Green, Director General of the Freight Transport Association, repeats the old saw that increasing lorry weights to 44-tonnes will mean fewer lorries on the roads. It will not. What larger lorries will mean are lower road haulage costs.

This would further tilt the economic balance against rail haulage in favour of road transport. This is especially so because rail freight operators have to carry their full "track costs", whereas road hauliers do not carry their fair share of road costs.

Mr Green also suggests increasing investment to fund the assessment and strengthening of roads and bridges - presumably by the taxpayer to carry the new heavier forries. This would be inequitable. Rail operators wishing to run faster or heavier trains pay for the necessary track improvements. Road hauliers should be expected to do the same.

Yours faithfully. N. G. WALKER (Secretary, North Chiltern Rail Users' Group), Stockwell Farm, 17 High Street, Haddenham.

Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

from the Transport Select Commit-

During this process it is far from clear that the expertise of English Heritage and other statutory authorities concerned with listed buildings has always been drawn on. Britain is lucky to have so many historic bridges. More stringent weight restrictions offer the best hope of pre-

From Mr Philip Venning

Sir, The most conspicuous omission

Danger, wild boar Prom Mr John E. Cooper

Sir, I recently read a disconcerting piece of news attributed to your paper and printed in our local Record of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

For many generations we have believed that our ancestor. Richard de Gylpyn, had slain the last wild boar in England only to find out now freport. February 10) that there are still wild boar wandering about Sir Paul Mc-Cartney's farm in Kent.

The implications are horrendous, is possible that Uncle Richard was a te and we will now be required to return the Manor of Kentmere? God forbid! The alternative is no less attractive, as it would mean that Britain now has imported wild boars. French or German perhaps ... or did they sneak over through the Chunnel?
Why are these beasts still roaming

the countryside? Perhaps Paul's neighbors are just seeing things.

Sincerely. JOHN É. COOPER, 612 Montgomery Road. Ambler, PA 19002 February 12.

Even if anti-Semitism has gained

road bridges still in use are of historic

interest and are legally protected as

listed buildings or in some cases

scheduled ancient monuments. This is

especially true of local authority-

owned bridges, many of which the

select committee would like to see

Some historic bridges have been

successfully strengthened to take hea-

vier lorries without too much loss of

their historic fabric and interest. But

this needs the skills of the right kind of

engineers, whose priority may not be

Sadly some strengthening pro-

posals have involved drastic rebuild-

ing of bridges, in extreme cases simply recladding what is effectively a

new structure with stone salvaged

that of improving traffic flow.

serving them for the future.

(Secretary, The Society for the

Protection of Ancient Buildings).

Northern Ireland votes

Sir. Nick Ross perpetuates a common

myth (the Valerie Grove interview,

February 21) when he says: "When the

Troubles began [in Northern treland],

the English sided immediately with

the Catholics, not because of national-

ern Ireland, both to Stormont and to

Westminster, have always been on the

basis of universal adult suffrage. In

local council elections the system still

applied at the start of the Troubles

twenties and living with my parents at

the time, had no local vote, while those

of my friends, Catholic or Protestant,

Letters for publication may

be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Thus I, a Protestant in my early

that only ratepayers had a vote.

who were ratepayers, did.

13 Magheralave Park North.

BRIAN HUSS.

February 24.

Lisburn, Co Antrim

Parliamentary elections in North-

ism but because they had no votes".

Yours faithfully

February 21.

PHILIP VENNING

37 Spital Square, El.

From Dr Brian Huss

tee's report (report, February 12, later editions) is the recognition that many

Insurers and gene tests From Mr Peter J. Firth

ANTHONY TINSLEY,

King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Yours faithfully,

February 22.

Sir, I fail to see how the insurance companies can benefit themselves by demanding gene test results [letters, February 22; article, Mind and Matter. February 24i.

When all the dust has settled - in. say, ten years' time — any uninsur-able underclass will be counterbalanced by an overclass of thoroughly insurable people who will be attractive to competitive insurers and will therefore gain insurance at lower rates.

Overall, neither premiums nor the insurance companies' profits will rise as a result of this change. All that will be achieved is reduced rates for the majority, enhanced accuracy of the insurers' statistics - and continued oppression of the underclass.

Yours sincerely, PETER J. FIRTH. 1 Currell's Row. Lacey Green, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. February 19.

Tiny Charles

From Mr John Mansfield

Sir. As Charles Dickens obviously did not want any commemorative statue (letters, February 25) and left Ports-mouth, his birthplace, at the age of two, why not compromise? His ghost might be placated, even

amused, if his fan club at Portsmouth University had a statue made of baby Dickens as he toddled away to learn to

It could give Portsmouth a better perspective on its literary legacy.

Yours faithfully. JOHN MANSFIELD, 135 Dalling Road, W6. February 25

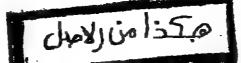
Clap track?

From Mr Tony Killeen

Sir, As a born-again Christian, failed Anglican, and occasional rail traveller, I sometimes find myself becoming confused between the subjects of some of your letters ("End of the line?". "Church clappies", etc., February 22).

If I've got this right, then the 1662 Service is South West Trains jargon for the delayed 4.59.

Yours sincerely. TONY KILLEEN, 202 Bishop Road. Bishopston, Bristol. February 24.





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 25: The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman arrived in London today on a State Visit to The Oueen and

The Duke of York welcomed The President and Mrs Weizman on behalf of Her Majesty at Gatwick Airport, London.

The President of the State of

Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman, accompanied by His Royal High-ness drove to Horse Guards and

were met by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.
The President and Mrs Weizman, accompanied by Her Majesty and His Royal Highness, with The Duke of York, drove in a Carriage Procession to Bucking-ham Palace with a Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry. Gun Salutes were fired in Green Park by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, and at the Tower of London by the Honourable

Artillery Company.

Guards of Honour were provided at Horse Guards by the 1st Battalion Scots Guards and at Buckingham Palace by The Queen's Guard (F Company Scots Guards).

The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weitman this afternoon drove to Westminster Abbey where His Excellency laid a Wreath at the Grave of the Unknown

Afterwards, at St James's Palace,
The President of the State of Israel
and Mrs Reuma Weizman received
an Address of Welcome by the Lord
Mayor and Councillors of the City of

Wesminster.
The President and Mrs Weizman subsequently visited Queen Elizabeth.
The Queen Mother at Clarence

The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma Weizman later met Leaders of the Jewish Community at Buckingham Palace. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening gave a State Banquet in honour of The President of the State of Israel and Mrs Reuma

Weizman at which Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Dole of York, The Prince Edward, The Princess Royal. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke of Kenz, Prince Michael of Kent, and Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy and the Rt Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy were The following had the honour of

Saint of the President of the State of hund and Mrs Resum Weitman Mr Arieh Shorner (Director General of The President's Office), Professor Yankov Frenkel (Governor of the Bank of Israel), Brigadier General Shimon Hefetz (Akid-de-Camp to The Presidenti. Colonel Yistael Shalir (Israeli Air Force Representative). Professor Avi Rivkind (Personal Physician to The President). Mr Amiram Magid (Minister Plenipotentiary)

Rollical Affairs).

Specially attached in attendance upon The President of the State of Issues and Mrs Reums Welzman: Issue and Mrs Reuses Weisman: The Lady Elton (Lady in Waiting), the

Lord Campys (Lord in Waiting) and the Lady Campys. Mr David Man-ning (Her Majesty's Ambassador at Tel Aviv) and Mrs Manning, and Lieutenant Commander Toby Williamson RN (Equerry in Waiting)

Diplomatic Corps His Excellency the Apostolic Nuncio. Archbishop Luigi Barbarita. His Excellency the Israeli Arabassador and Mrs Hana Raviv, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, His Excellency the Ambas-sador of the Hashemite Kingdom of

sador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Madame Ayoub, His Excellency the Ambassador of the French Republic, His Excellency the Ambassador of the United States of America and Mrs Crowe, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Russian Federation and Madam Adamishina, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Madame van Roijen, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany and Mrs Oesterhelt, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway, and Mr Afif Safich (Palestinian General Delegate, Erroby to the United Kingdom Office Salish (Palestinian General Delegate, Envoy to the United Kingdom Office of the Palestinian General Delegation to the United Kingdom) and Mrs Salish.

Embassy of the State of Israel Mr Arthur Koll (Counsellor, Information) and Mrs Koll, and Mr Shimuel Micha (Counsellor, Administration) and Mrs Micha. The Caldings

The Lord Chancellor and the Lady Mackay of Clashiern, the Prime Minister and Mrs Major, the Lord Privy Seal and Viscounteess Cranborute, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Mrs Riffand, and the Secretary of State for the Lord Mrs Riffand, and the Secretary of State for Males. Some for Wales. Special language

for Quar's students educated in Suish universities. His Royal Highness alterwards utended a Reception for staff at the British Embassy. The Prince of Wales this evening gave a Reception and Dinner in HMY firtugantle. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Carey, the Rt Hon the Speaker, the Earl Marshal and the Duchess of the Earl Marshal and the Duchess of Norfolk, the Earl of Balfour, the Viscount and Viscountess Allenby, the Lord and Lady Weidenfeld, the Lord and Lady Rothschild, Field Marshal the Lord and Lady Bramall, the Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and Dame Jennifer Jenkins of Hillhead and Dame Jennifer Jenkins, the Baroness Chaiker of Wallasey and Mr Clive Landa, the Lord and Lady Woolf, the Lord Chief Justice and the Lady Bingham of Cornhill, the Chief Rabbi Dr Jonathan and Mrs Sacks, the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor, the Hon David and Mrs Sieff, the Rt Hon Paddy

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President Emeritus of the World Wide Fund for Nature — WWF International, will waterd a Press Conference for World-Wide Rund for Nature's Forests for Life compaign at St.James's Palace at 10.15; and will attend a reception and diamer at St.James's Palace at 7.30. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, as Honorary Colonel, will visit The Royal Yeomanny at the Duke of York's Headquarters at noon.

The Duke of York will attend a dinner given by Sports Akling Medical Research for Kids (SPARKS) at the Gladstone Library, Whitehall Place, SMI of 200

SWI, at 7.30. SWI, at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will learner Camden Carers Centre at Camden Town Half, Bidborough Street, WCI, as 11.00.

Later, she will attend the SOCM Pauls Agricultural College Pig Herd awards in the Dordessen humb at 12.00 cares the Dordessen humb at 12.00 care. Major-General and Mrs Isin Mackey-Dick, Mr and Mrs Frederick Altken, Mr and Mrs William Brindley, Mr and Mrs Reward George, Mr and Mrs Michael Levy, Rabbi Julia and Dr Anthony as President of the British Entiting and Clothing Export Council, will attend London Fashion Week at the Natural History Moseum at 2.30.

Dinners

Royal Institution of Chartered Prince Faisal him Al Hussein of Jordan was the principal speaker at the annual dinner of the Royal

Institution of Chartered Surveyors held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr Jeremy Bayliss, presi-dem, was in the chair, Mr Garry Hart was the guest speaker. European Admile Group The Right Rev Lord Ruscie was

the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at the St Ermin's Hotel. Viscount Montgomery of Alameiu, president, was in the chair. The High Commissioner for Malawi and

Church news

Ryde School

The Governors are pleased to

announce the appointment of Dr. Nicholas England, currently a Housemaster at Wellington College, as Headmaster of Ryde School, Isle of Wight, from September 1997.

Weavers' Company

Mr S.A.A. Block, Upper Bailiff of

the Weavers' Company, welcomed Professor Chris Maddox, Principal

of the Soutish College of Textiles, to the company's annual textile awards presentation held yes-terday at Saddlers' Hall and

presented him with the company's sliver medal and prize for an

Professor Maddog presented the Young Weaver of the Year award to Mr Andrew Watson; technology awards to UMIST, the Bolton Institute and the Scottish College of Testiles; and design awards to the Bout Scottish College of Testiles; and design awards to the Bout Scottish College of Arts Testiles.

the Royal Society of Arts, Texprint,

the Design Trust and the Royal College of Art.

of Courserve The Danish Ambaysador attended

a function of the Danish-UK Chamber of Commerce held yes-terday at the Dunish Club, Knightsbridge, in honour of Sir David Naish, President of the

National Farmers Union, who also

spoke. Mr James G. Davis chair-man of the chamber, was the host.

Miss Margaret Rotinvell to be

Ambassador (non-resident) to

Ambasador (non-resident) to Cape Verde and Mali from late-April in succession to Mr Alan Furness

who is retiring from the Dip-

Appointments

Liberia.

outstanding contribu

Lancheon

Daniel UK Chamber

oducation.

Pebruary & The Prince Edward, Trustee, this morning attended The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Finance and Administration Committee Meeting at Award House, St Mar-thew Street, London SW1. The Right Rev Bill Ind, Suffragan Bishop of Grantham (diocese of Lincoln), has been appointed Bishop of Truro, in succession to the Right Rev Michael Ball who retired on February 14. **FUCKINGHAM PALACE** February 25: The Princess Royal, President. British Knitting and Cloth-ing Export Council. this afternoon visited Angela Stone Design. 27 New Kings Road, Landon SW6.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

Neuberger, Mr and Mrs Edward Tahachnik, Mr and Mrs Edward Temko and Mr and Mrs Peter

The Queen and The Duke of

Edinburgh were represented by Sir Brian McGrath (Extra Equerry to The Duke of Edinburgh) at the Funeral of Count Geta Andrassy which was held in the Plartkirche. Vaduz, Lichtenstein, this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

ال الرابطية الرابطية المن المنظمة المن المنظمة المنظمة

Petruary 2: The Prince of Wales this morning arrived in Quar on hoard HIMY Britannia and was received by The Crown Prium.

Afterwards His Royal Highness received by The Amir of the State of Quar at the Emiri Diwan.

The Prince of Wales subsequently stated of Amir of the State of Control of the State of

attended a Luncheon given by The

Amir.
His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Rus Laffan Liquid Natural Gas Plant and Port, met British engineers and toured the size.
The Prince of Wales, Vice Patron, the British Council, later visited British Council offices in Qatar, nec Council staff and attended a Reception to hunch the Alumal Association of Datar's students educated in

bingmanth orbitally net child kabba Dr Jonathan and Mrs Sacks, the Rt Hon David and Mrs Selez, the Rt Hon Paddy Ashdown MP, the Rt Hon Anthony Blair MP and Mrs Bisir, Mr David Trimble MP and Lady Butler, Fleid Marshal Sir Peer and Lady Sater, Sir John and Lady Coles, Sir Peer and Lady Levene, Mr Richard Glordano, Sir Issiah and Lady Bertin, Str Sidney and Lady Hamburger, Sir Aaron and Lady King, Sir Evelyn and Lady Chinn, Sir Richard and Lady Greenbury, Sir Christopher and Lady Chinn, Sir Richard and Lady Gilbert, Sir Ronald and Lady Gilbert, Sir Ronald and Lady Hampel, Rabbi Dr John and Mrs Rayner, Mr and Mrs David Lewis, Major-Ceneral and Mrs lain

other Members of the Diplomatic Corps and representatives of other religious and cultural organ-isations were among those present. Association of Lancostrians in London

Lord Shuttleworth, President of the Association of Languagnians in London, presided at the annual City dinner held last night in the Great Hall in St Bartholomews Hospital. Mr M.R. Ridley, Clerk to the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster, was the guest speaker. Author of Accounts

Mr Duncan Ferguson, President of the Institute of Actuaries, was the host and presided at a dinner of held last night in

Johnny Cash, the singer.

Mr Paul Ackford, rugby player, 39: Lord Bridge of Harwich, 30; Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, solicitor, 83; Sir

APV. 68: Mr David Edgar, play-wright, 49: Mr S.J. Etherington, chief executive, National Council

for Voluntary Organisations, 42; Sir Donald Parquiarson, former

Lord Justice of Appeal, 69; Mr Harry Gold, band leader and

saxuphonist, 90; Sir James Gold-smith, MEP and company chair-man, 64; Dr BJ. Greenhill, author,

Mr Christopher Hope, writer,

53; Miss Emma Kirkby, soprano

48: Mr Alan Lloyd, deputy chair-man, Association of District Coun-

cils, 61; Professor Norsen Murray, FRS, molecular biologist, 62; Sir

Michael Perry, former chairman, Unilever, 63; Mr Tony Selby, actor, 59; Dr Diana Walford,

director, Public Health Laboratory

Service, 53; Sir Everton Weekts cricketer, 72.

The Ambassador of Hungary was

the host at a reception held

yesterday at the embassy to mark the unveiling of the Raoul Wallenberg monument in London.

Sir Sigmund Sternberg and Mr

Reception

Hungarian Embassy

Birthdays

today

John McBride were the principal speakers at the quinquential din-ner of the Wasps Football Club held last night at the Savoy Hotel

Staple inn for guests from the professions and the City. Judge

Mr David Trick and Mr Willie

Esyr Lewis, QC, also spoke.

Wasps Football Clab

to mark 130 seasons and the first as a professional club. Mr Bill Treadwell, president, was in the chair, Mr J. Richardson, President of the Rugby Football Union, the RFU Treasurer, Secretary and Coach were the guests of honour. Presidents of English First division rugby chibs were among those

Institute of Chartered

Aiyegisusi, O A; Akinbobola, R; Alker, L.P. Ball, L.M.; Balthazar, C D; Birthisel, S B; Board, N F; Boston, M J; Brown, T F; Burge,

Fair, C P. Fisher, R J; Rorrest, S;

Lobercombe. A J; Li Wing Tao, T; Loy, A L; Lymbery, C J; Maggs, B S; Maigrot. M S; Marshall, C E; McCracken, A; McCulloch, A W; McKean, A W; McKeever, R A; Mellows, A H; Mennies, J N; Marshall, A Mennies, D N; Marshall

Redlich, S. Rennie, J M D. Robertson, T. Rose, P.A. Rule, M. S. Sargent, S. D. H. Saunders, I. W. Shuttleworth, P. Sie Lay Hwa:

Taylor, S. Taylor, K. M.; Tefula, M.; Thompson, A. M.; Thompson, A. L.; Thompson, R. Tracey, M. A.; Tra-vers, M. B.; Udugampola, R.; Vaughan, C.C. Venn, I.

Secretaries and Administrators Exemination results Decembe

Carmanile, P J; Cassim, F Z; Curramile, P J; Cassim, F Z; Chadwick, P J; Champion, R H; Collister, J L; Corniskey, A A; Curran, T; Curtis, S; Dharmarajah, D E M; Docherty, J; Dodkins, C H; Eade, M J; Earl, C M; English, B G; Enright, A M; Estall, C A; Evans, P M.

Poster, J S: Godakumbura, M S: Green, N. U.; Harriey, B. I.; Hassard, J.; Haynes, V.; Healy, R. O; Hesketh, S.W.; Honigman, G.H.; Hugh, S. G.; Hume, D. A.; Humphrey, A.R. lackson, M A: Johling, J; John, M

L. Jones, N. P. Jones, P. A. Kahagalle, P. U. P. Kalyegira, K.; Kandiah, S.; Kanr, P.; Kawol, D.; King, S; King, D L; Kingdon, P A; Kisembo, D; Knights, J; Kumar, A

Mellows, A. H.; Menzies, J. N.; Moore, J. A.; Morrison, S.; Mukasa, S. F.; Musgrove, R. H.; Muwanga, J. Nair, A. B.; Nelson, I. A.; Ng. May Ling; Nothoo, D. K. S.; Nif Boabeng, D.; O'Brien, S. M.; O'Malley, M.; Odong, C. A.; Odunlami, A. O.; Owolabi, L. O.; Page, C. M.; Parker, P. A.; Payne, L. G.; Phillips, E. K.; Pollard, W. D.; Poynton, D. G.; Prew, R. M. RM.

Smith, P. Smith, PJ: Sodeke, O O: Spencer, J; Spevack, TJ; Stone, CE Summerbell, M.

David Amess, MP, were the speakers.

Princess Christina of Sweden and the Hungarian Minister of Culture were also present.

Wallace, S. M. H.; Walton, S. L.; Ward, K.1; Warson, J.L.; Watts, S.A.; Weddell, D; Whale, K.I; Wheatley, J. B.; Whyte, D. P.; Wong Wai Chung; Yardley, D.L.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.J. Betteridge and Miss J.L. Cruickshank The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr James Anthony Beneridge and Mrs June Robinson, of Johannes-burg, South Africa, and Jane, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Neil Cruickshank, of Toddenham St Martin, Suffolk.

Mr M.J. Campbell

and Dr G.R. Test
The engagement is announced
between Michael, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Campbell, of Perth, Wessern Australia, and Gillian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Tett. of Moor Park, Mirideses.

Mr W.F. Dale and Miss J.A. Swales The forthcoming marriage is an-nounced and will take place on Saturday, March 29, 1997, at Zaca Lake, California, between Bill, son of Mr and Mrs D. Dale, of Valinda, California, and Julie, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs F.N. Swales, of Kernsing, Kent.

Mr P.D. Gowers and Miss C.E. Sykes The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jeffery Gowers, of Breat-wood, Essex, and Claire, elder daughter of the late Mr Andrew Sykes and of Mrs Andrew Sykes.

of Pudsey, West Yorkshire. Mr S.R. Krombal and Miser S.J. Roward The engagement is announced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs Cle Sigvard Kverndal, of

Halstead, Kent, and Sophie, youn-gest twin daughter of Mr and Mrs John Rowsell, of Antrobus, Chemins. Mr D'A. Lambton and Miss J. Wells

The engagement is announced between D'Arey, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Lambton, of London, and Joanna, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Wells, of Maldon, Mr.LP. Reed

and Miss L.C. Greensere The engagement is announced between James, youngest son of the Rev Frederick Reed and Mrs Joan Dart, both of Toronto, Canada, and Louise, daughter of Mr David L. Greenacre and the late. Lady Elizabeth Greenscre, and stepdisughter of Mrs David Greenacre, of Alresford,

Mr J.M. Lowrie and Miss J.A. Hubbard

The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr and Mrs John Lowrie, of Cranleigh, Surrey, and Juliet, second daugh-ter of Mr and Mrs David Hubbard, of Windlesham, Surrey.

Mr A.G. Page and Miss A.G. Lewthwaite The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Page, of Piltand purs success rage, or rile down, Sussex, and Alice, elder daughter of Mrs Elizabeth Lewthwaite, of Battisborough Cruss, Devon and the late Mr Valentine Lewihwaite.

Mr A.O.P. Ransford and Miss C.F. Read The engagement is announced between Andrew son of Mr and Mrs Neil Ransford, of Arminister. Devon, and Clemency, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Read, of Bath, Somerset.

Mr B.I. Scott Knight and Miss G. de Lancey Walters The engagement is announced between Ben, son of Mr Adrian Scott Knight and Mrs Nicola Scott Knight, of Blackthorn, Oxfordshire, and Gemma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Simon de Lancey Walters, of Tundry House, Dogmersfield, Hampshire.

Marriages Mr H.R. Enfield

and Miss L.C. Lyster
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 22, 1997, at the
Church of the Immaculate Conceptimen of the immacutate Conception, Farm Street, London, of Mr.
Henry Richard Enfield, son of Mr.
and Mrs. Edward Enfield, of
Billingshurst, Sussex, to Miss.
Lucy Caroline Lyster, younger
daughter of I susy the labour Feeter Lyster, of Layer de la Haye. Essex. Father Anthony Lovegrove

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Maximillian Gerry. Montana Gerry, Olivia Lyster, Katie Gahamire and Rosalind Gahamire. Mr David Kleinman was best man. Mr M.A. Froman

and Miss D.A. Gardner The marriage took place on February 17, 1997, on Mount Wedge, British Columbia, between Mark Freeman and Dorothy Gardner, both formerly of Hong Kong.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Anthony Ashley Cooper, 3rd Barl of Shaltesbury, writer, London, 1671; Victor Hugo, author, Bessnoon, France, 1802; William Frederick Cody (Buffalo Bill), shownan, Scott County, Iowa, 1846. Evante Bridge, component 1846; Frank Bridge, composer; Brighton, 1879.

DEATHS: Thomas d'Uriey, sati-rist. London. 1723; Giusange Tartini, composer, Padus, 1770; Alvis Composer, Padus, 1770; Tartini, composer, Padua, 1770;
Alois Senetider, inventor of loss of 485 lives, 1852.
Ilthography, Munich, 1834; Prederick Tennyson, poet, London, 1898; Sir Harry Lander, comedian, Strathaven, 1980; William Ralph 1935.

inge, Dean of St Paul's 1911-1934, Wallingford, 1954; Levi Eshkol, Prime Minister of Israel 1963-69, Jerusalem, 1969; Karl Jaspera, Existentialist philosopher, Basel, £1 and £2 bank notes were issued

for the first time, 1797. The steamer Birkenhead was wrecked of Cape Colony with the

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BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 0171 481 9313

Lord of Hosts, you test the righterns and search the depths of the heart. To you I have committed my cause. Reventish 20: 12.	DEATHS
BIRTHS	AMSTELL - Margaret pencifully on 24th February 1997 aged 83. Widow of Robert, mother of Anthony,
Anterno - John - On February 22nd 1997, to Caroline and Presente, a drughter, India Sophia. BODINGTON - On February 23rd in Heidelberg, to headled and heid.	grandmother of Melhan and Shannit. Formerly of Summotes and BA Seaby Let. Funeral on Sanday, 2nd Blanch 1997 at 2 ym at the Liberal Jewish Cemetery, Found Lone, Willesden. Enquiries to E.f. Bent Funeral Directors (0181)
SCHEME - On February 20th, to Jum and William, a sea, Arthur isso, a brother for Robert and Miranda, CALLARD - On February 18th 1997, to Elizabeth (née Vaille) and Paul, a daughten, Lory Ottria. GLARK - On Insustry 26th, to Heim (née See) and Ewan, a daughter, Amy Elizabeth, a daughter, Amy Elizabeth, a daughter, Amy Elizabeth, a dary and Karen, a son, a sea, and the pertined Bospital, ty Gary and Karen, a son, a sea,	AMONEW - freme (note jones) on February 22nd, peacefully after a short illness. Widow of the Reverend Sir Berbert Andrew K.C.M.G., C.B., beloved mother and con Monday March 3rd ar life in No flow power but on the power but on t
and Christine. BOWARDS - On 3rd February, to Jane (rife Benson) and David and Borista Bridd Kendrick (Rory), a howther for Christopher. BULLETTH - On Pelevary	Pand. SAREY - On February 21st 1997. Pescurially at home, after in illness bravely bear break within Call. Depose he had within Call. Depose he had been break and much loved brother-in-
24th 1997, to Katy (nie Bectur) and Alistair, a chropher, Smah Estherine. Gentriffes on 22nd February 1997, to Kristina and Neil, a daughter, Bayleigh Mail johnson, a sister for jacob, Hamilton's On telemany 24th at The Royal Berks, James Esti Tomas, a som for Alism and Tamia (nie Dixon), a	Funeral at Woodwale Crematorium, Lewes Ecod, Brighton on Friday 28th February at 4.50 pm. Family Rowers only please but donations if desired to Macmillan Appeal, co Attres & Kent Ltd., 108 Church Road, Hove, BN3 225, tel. (01273) \$21765.

JACKEON - On February 19th, to Carol (sée Barten) and Feter, at The Royal Berkshive Hospital, a daughter, jeune lette, a charge m Daniel LAME - On February 23rd 1997, to Jose (nie Bowman) and Gary, a son, Tobles Cake (Toby), a backer for Normal. LLOYD - On January 31st, to Hillary (nde Patch) and Chris, a daughter, Isobel, a sister for William and Amer addit-On 21st January 1997 at St Mary's, Paddington, to Camilla (née de Souse Turner) and Julian, a son, Harry Edmund Vere, a brother for Christabal and

MAXTED - On 16th February, to mand (of Cart) and Adam, a beautiful daughter, Matlita Madison, a sister for MEAKiti - On Saturday Pebruary 22nd to Sopale (nos Pietcher) and John, a son (William John). PRINCERED - On Jamesry 31st 1997 at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Niki (toler Harry Tobias. 1055 - On February 17th 1997, to Carol (nie Warner) and Gordon, a daughter, Haylar Edwardh, a stoor for Johnston. STEVENS - On Sunday February 23rd, to Lucy (note Gole) and Andrew, a daughter, Enter Molly. caugates, Estan Molly.

TAYLOR - On February 20th at

Comes Christian Hospital,

to Kim and David, a ton,

Soutt McCarthy, a brother

for Christian.

MESTONE-COOPER - On 20th

М

REMNCKE - Cuiverly aged 82 suddenly on 23rd February. Private cremation. Donations to Injured Jockey's fund.

February 20th 1997.

Braham and Kartin,

Graham and Kartin,

Graham and Kartin,

February Service at R Mary

to The Life at 1 me of

Wednesday 5th Harch,

followed by cremation,

Family flowers only pleme,
but domation, if demond, to

the Imperial Cancer,

Research Fund, die S.L.

Fromley & Son, 145

Megdalten Rend, Ontherd, teit

(01865) 792227.

CHAMBERHAMB Diane February 20th 1997. CHAMBERLAIR Disse

dinomité - frame (née jones)
on February 22nd,
peacefully after a shore
illness, Widow of the
Reverend Sir Herbert
Andrew R.C.H.G., C.B.,
beloved mother and
on Monday March 3rd at
all 5 no 10 m place
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ARLEY - On February 21st 1997. Pescentully at home, after an illiness bravely because the first and mach loved butter-laise of the first and much loved butter-laise of trends and stock loved butter-laise of trends and retar for Function. Lewis Ecod, Brighton on Friday 28th February st 4.30 pt. Pamily flowers only please but donations if desired to incentilian Appeal, cio Attres & Kent Ltd., 108 Church Road, Hove, BN3 228, take (01273) (221965.

BARKER - On February 22nd pencetally at home aged 76 years, Frank Clifford, beloved husband of Margarut, dear father of Margarut, dear father of Miles and Colin, loving grandfather of Ailson, Caroline and Levan, intherin-law of Sathura and Lyan Former Chairman of Beltish Caroline and President of the Institution of Gas Engineers. A wonderful caring man, deeply mourand by all who knew him. Service and committed at 5t John's Church, Moor Allerton, Leeds on Monday March 3rd at 10.45 ant followed by private cremation, Family flowers only please, domains in the Hadred to Eritish Team Formatics. 4 Satis Service Theorems on the Parish Densi Formatics.

REAUFOY HELM - Yalerie, READFOY MELM - Valeries, Counters, peacefully on 24th February. Much missed by daughter Fetrina and sister Sheila. Funeral private. Memorial Service 12th March at 3t Simon 2010tes, Milner Street, Chelson SW3 12.30 pm. Densitions to Landon SE11 SPC.

Jockey's Fund.

2018M - John Dunham.
February peacefully at Joseph and long arther of Rushand of Failes and much loved father of Alexandra, Charles, Nicola and Edward He will be greatly missed Service at Petracy Vale Committeding on Monday 3rd March 17 am.

Bendier on End harmy 1997 pencefully at home. Relieved wife, mother and grandmerhet. Private cremation. Service of the service

CAPTE - Penu Bridger on 24th February and Royanz. Much lawed brahand of Extry, father of Resembly, Patricia, James and gamel-lation LLP. Peneral Barries at Charing Committedrom on Treading 4th March at 2 pa.

Theoday 4th himsch at 2 ps.

Core I a Col. Patte. and

Jie Bissay and 8th Mach
loved father of Caroline,
madiather of Caroline,
surface Church, Weybridge
at 1.15 pm on 7th March
louwed by Caronitosian
Family flowers only.
Family flowers only.
Committee for Deep Gelha
Society in India, Cheques
made out to Weybridge PCC
(Deep Echa), to F.W. Chity
à Co., 45 Elmgrove Ecod,
with Co., 45 Elmgrove Ecod,
COPENTAME - On 22md COPESTAKE - On 22nd
February 1997 after a long
illimits berne with great
courage. Jonathan Mark
Clive aged 44, beloved
hasband of Debomb, leving
father of Emma and
limits of Emma and
Copestake and the Clive
Copestake and the backers
of Reiners Service at St.
Mary's Church, Broughton,
ar. Stockbridge, Runts, on
Thursday 27th February at
3.15 pm followed by private
cremation. Ramily Clowers
only but marked the service
to The Conzuess of
Brockmock Hospice c/o
Halarme Same Fubersi
Directors, 64 Bridge Street,
Andrew, Hams. S710 life,
tab (1266) 335255.
CHAIR - Florence Windfred.

tel: (01264) 335255.
CULLIS - Florence Winified, peacefully on February 22rd. Degreet mether to Elizabeth and much loved Casany to Mirack February at 2.15 pm. No flowers plants but demations, it desired, to the B.D.A. Sackville Flace, 44 Magdalen Street, Muzfolk, RE 1 JU.

PAIRTLOUGH - On Monday
24th February 1997 Anne
Densi Mary (all Mars) and
24th February 1997 Anne
Densi Mary (all Mars) and
34th february Lenn, send
mother of Jonann and Polity,
becauting maniformer of
february of Louise, Billy,
Rauriet and William,
Suddenly at The Quinta
Nursing Home, Bentley, near
Furnham, Survey, after
bearing most bravely and
patiently Parkhames divense
for many years, She will be
family and friends. Famend
at Tillord, details from
Furnham Furnaral Sarvices,
set (01252) 711444.

Will - Marion (no Bowells) and Pi of Balanced Samp Died pencerally on February 25th. Pumeral private. No flowers at her request.

MARROW - Management Mary, of The Olds Balvary, Mindistruction, Northell, the believed of P.J. and ever loving mother of Andrew, Nachoda, and Chabrins, ched on 24th February 1997 at The Filicially Roomston, Academical Committee on the States of the Partie of the States of the Partie of the States of the States

(Occocia) - Passes James Astley (Jossesh) - Passeshilly at his home of Ashridge on 22rd February, and 94. Funcal Service at the Church of 2 Pater and 37 Fast's, Little Gaddesdan at 3 pm, 4th Harch. Fellowed by cressation for family only. Flowers or alternatively femalions on Press and St Fest's Church.

PARPER - On Pebruary Zist suddenty Rigardier C.A. des H. (Tony) Harper GBE, devoted bestamt of Mary and loving father of Caroline, Punami March 3ed 2 pm Appledon. Manousied Service to be absorated. Impilias (0120) 78825. Fill. - Repay Shanmon clini, on 19th Polymary at home after a new and compensus teacher against levinement aged 6 years 10 months. Senry was a levely box fit well live on in our hearts and minds forwer, Julie, Dennis, Olivin and Lean. Present Exercite for family and close friends at 31 leans a Charle, Marsell Edit or Polymary at 2 per Dennishma please with Louistensie, 61 Great Comment Street, Will 7/9.

February 22nd aged 85. Hinch loved leasthand, fathers and grandfather. Private measurement on 28th February 1997 American Charles and Ethinbert Inches and greet-wart to February 1997 American Charles and Ethinbert Inches and greet-wart to February 1997 American Charles and Ethinbert Inches and greet-wart to February 1997 American Charles and Ethinbert Inches and greet-wart to February 1997 at most to Charles and Ethinbert Inches and greet-wart to February 1997 at most to Charles and Ethinbert Inches and Ethi

Net DIFF-385 FEED,

Loadon, Barbara Hary,
dendy loved wife of the intejohn Heary Dinon who died
humany 19th, 1997, Much
jowed mother of Sarah,
genedatother of Luchan and
huma. Femala Burice at in
Peter's Church, Bedford,
March 7th at 12 noon,
ramily flowers only,
dozations to Trinity
Hospita, Baghelius Hears,
Cottonia, sub: (D181) 8747698. 7696.

MARK- Juff, on Polominy 16th, 1997, aged 21, tregically lifted in a manufacture rear Purplement Property of the season of Hugh, described of Justine, one of John and Sara, Manufacture of Justine, one of John and 12 2000. Hampatend hack Cauca, No Insurance of Resistance on Crisis can be sent to Leverton & Song, 212 Invested Special Sp

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MelACHLAST - Kitty (nonBarrana), of Fabous Lodge,
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22nd February 1997 at Macdem College, Sheckmath, London, Violet Thelian, street of John and Maucke, he ber 92nd year. Franch at Morden College Chaped followed by private creaming. Moreon by the denations, if desired, to Morden College.

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ANDREI SINYAVSKY

Andrei Sinyavsky, Russian novelist and Soviet dissident, died in Paris yesterday aged 7L He was born in Moscow on October 8, 1925.

is merits as a writer notwithstanding, it is the fare of Andrei Sinyavsky to be remembered, along with his fellow author, the late Yuli Daniel, as the victim of one of the most shameful examples of formal state persecution to be enacted under the Soviet system in the postwar period. Amid a storm of protest from all over the world, in February 1966 Sinyavsky and Daniel were convicted of what the authorities termed "vile fabrications against their own country" - by which it was meant that they had published abroad works which could never have seen the light of day in the Soviet Union. Sinyavsky was sentenced to seven years hard labour: Daniel, who died in 1989, received five years. The trial was characterised

by an even grosser disregard for the interests of the defendants than was then customary. Since neither man pleaded guilty, as had been usual in the proceedings of the Stalin period, it could not be a show trial, but was rushed through the court with indecent haste. The foreign press was excluded, though a secret record was taken by individuals who were themselves later tried and sentenced for this. The brave efforts of these sympathisers, smuggled out of the Soviet Union, were later published in Britain as On Trial and formed the basis of a critical documentary, The First Freedom, broadbast by BBC Television in 1967.

The hearing was begun after a carefully orchestrated campaign in the Soviet press, and was designed to cow writers and artists with a thorough understanding of the fact that the brief thaw of the Khrushchev years was over. When the defendants sought to uphold what they considered the artist's right to self-expression, they were interritoted by the trial judge who declared: "This is not a literary seminar but criminal

But the trial, cruel though its consequences were for Sinyavsky and Daniel, actual-

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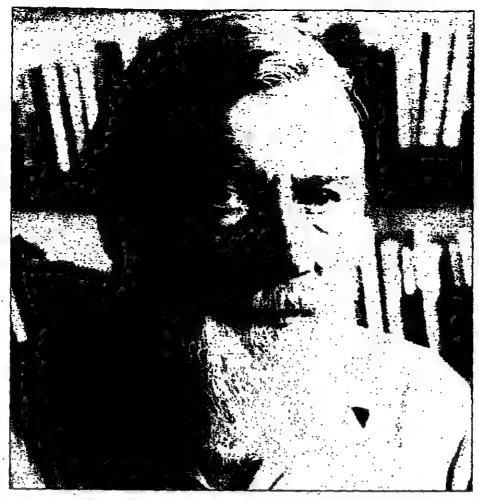
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more than it did them. A letter to The Times, protesting against the trial before it had begun, and signed by more than fifty leading writers from Britain, France, the US, West Germany and Italy, was to have been expected. Far more damaging was an open letter to the Soviet leadership signed by 63 members of the Soviet Writers Union and expressing the view that "The trial of Sinyavsky and Daniel has already harmed us more than their mistakes."

Though the repressive ethos of the Brezhnev regime and its successors had a long way to run, its moral authority was seen to have been fundamentally undermined by the persecution of these two writers. Dissidence in the Soviet Union never thereafter took a backward step. Sinyavsky was one of the

most talented of the generation of Russians who started writing after the Second World War Although he became a political figure through cirly damaged the Soviet system cumstance, his deepest inter-

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ests were in mystical and religious experience and in the traditional art and customs of

the Russian people.

Andrei Donatyevich Sinyavsky was educated in Moscow but his university studies had to wait until after the war. in the late 1940s he read literature at Moscow University Faculty of Philology and later took a doctorate for a thesis on Gorky's unfinished novel Klim Samgin. He moved to the Gorky Institute of World Literature, where he co-wrote a book about Picasso. He soon became known as a

brilliant young critic. In the early 1960s he wrote courageous reviews in the magazine Novy Mir, whose editor Alexander Tvardovsky was capitalising on the liberalisation of the early Khrushchev years, and in 1964 published a book (with A. Menshutin) The Poetry of the Early Revolutionary Years. Apart from its intrinsic merits, this book showed that Sinyavsky had a sincere commitment to the aims of the Russian revolu-

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The second secon to another the control of the control of

tion. His later dissidence was based on his doubts over the theory of Marxism and his hatred of the workings of the Soviet bureaucratic machine. Like all his generation he

was deeply shocked by the revelations of the crimes of Stalin, made in Khrushchev's speech to the Twentieth Party Congress. Aithough his own father had been arrested in 1951 and only released after this speech (he died soon afterwards) Sinyavsky had not appreciated the full extent of the terror. He told Mme Zamoyska, whom he later persuaded to take his manuscripts abroad: "I know how much the Soviet Union means to me by the depth of my shame when I heard the report.

About 1956 Sinyavsky had met Pasternak and come strongly under his influence. When Pasternak died, Sinyavsky and Daniel were pall-bearers at the funeral; when the largest collection of Pasternak's poems to appear in the Soviet Union came out in 1965

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it was with an introduction by Sinyavsky. The publication of Dr Zhivago helped to persuade Sinyavsky to send his own manuscripts to the West.

The first essay appeared in France in 1956, but soon his works were being published in America and Britain He used the pseudonym Abram Tertz, taken from a character in a sone about the criminal underworld, and perhaps chosen to suggest that he, too, was an "outsider". His critical essay On Socialist Realism (1900) and the novel Lyubimov (The Makepeace Experiment, 1965) are perhaps his deepest pieces of writing in their different modes, and these were two of the three works cited in the charges later brought against

It was not until September

1965 that the KGB caught up with him, and arrested him within a few days of his friend and contemporary Yuli Daniel. The two men were not brought to trial until February 1966 by which time their case had been prejudged in viru-lent press attacks. The trial was remarkable in a number of ways: although the annals of Soviet literature are scarred with the names of writers who were imprisoned or executed. this was the first time writers had been put on trial specifically for what they had written. They were charged with deliberately disseminating slanderous inventions about the Soviet Union.

The two men pleaded not guilty, and their colleagues, friends and the great names of the literary and academic worlds rallied to them. When the sentences were made known the wave of profest swent the world. In the Soviet Union the only writer of international standing to defend the action of the authorities was Mikhail Sholokhov. His pronouncement that the verdict was "merciful" has earned him lasting infamy. In the West, not only did the most eminent writers make their protest heard; the majority of Western Communist parties. too, spoke out strongly.

It was scarcely surprising that Sinyavsky's work offended not only against the official standards of the Soviet authorities but against the whole ethos of Soviet society. His stories are usually fantas tic, often grotesque, sometimes morbid in tone. The novel The Trial Begins (1960) evoked the horrors of the Stalin period. which made it (just) acceptable. But The Makepeace Experiment was a more general attack on the notion of creating an artificial Utopia through coercion. As his final speech at the trial made clear, Sinyavsky acted and wrote out of a deep love for Russia. He acknowledged the artist's strong social duty, but in the best Russian tradition he interpreted this as being a duty to tell the highest kind of truth as it appeared to him. This could not square with the society envisaged by the Soviet

authorities.

After his release from labour camp, Sinyavsky moved to Paris in 1973 with his wife Maria Rozanova-Kruelikova. an art historian. She had showed great courage during the trial, made her own protests and refused to be intimidated into silence. He became Professor of Russian Literature at the Sorbonne and he and his wife founded a literary review Sintaksis. He continued to publish under his pseudonym. A Voice from the Chorus (1973) was based on a series of letters written to his wife while in prison. Other books were In Gogol's Shad-ow (1975) and Walks with Pushkin (1976). His last book Ivan le Simple (1991) returned him to his first love, Russian folklore. In 1989 Sinyavsky set foot in his native country again for the first time in 17 vears, to take part in mourning after the death of his friend

Sinyavsky and his wife had one son, born in 1964.

RANDOLPH FIELDS

Randolph Fields, Anglo American lawyer, airline entrepreneur and gambler, died of cancer on February 24 aged 44. He was born on December 29, 1952.

THE co-founder of Virgin Atlantic Airways with Richard Branson in 1984, Randolph Fields was an enterprising lawyer feared in the London insurance market as a master of the art of "insurance archaeology": establishing claims for clients on both sides of the Atlantic many running into millions of dollars, on policies often decades old. A colourful, ebullient entre-

preneur with homes in Jersey. Scotland and California, Fields spent much of his life criss-crossing the Atlantic at Branson's expense, thanks to a severance deal which gave him free first-class travel for life on Virgin, with the right to take two guests along for the

So much use did Fields make of this perk - he reckoned to average £300.000 of free air travel a year for more than a decade - that Branson made several unsuccessful attempts to revise the agreement in court. Fields and his friends flew mertily on, as much to the casinos of Nevada as to his home in Palm Springs, often corraling other first-class passengers into a poker game en route. Randolph Fields was one of

identical twin brothers born in California to American parents who separated before their birth. His subsequently unconventional life, he believed, was largely shaped by his unorthodox childhood.

He was nine when his mother moved the family to England, on her acceptance as a doctoral student at Cambridge University. While his twin brother Robert moved via public school to university, Randolph left his North London grammar school, the Quintin School, at 16 without one O-level. After several years in a variety of jobs, from selling ice cream at London Zoo to "performance art" with Yoko Ono, he "talked his way" in 1975 into the law faculty of the Polytechnic of Central London know the University of Westminster), where he be-



Randolph Fields. left, with Richard Branson

came the first non-Communist president of the Student Union in a generation.

On graduating in 1979 he read for the Bar in London while simultaneously sitting the California attorney exams. One of the few lawyers to have qualified on both sides of the Atlantic, Fields soon grew bored with the lucrative life of an LA corporate lawyer, and left to set up his own practice. specialising in insurance law.

Living in England, but employed in America, with dual citizenship and a parent on each side of the Atlantic, Fields was making so many long-haul flights that he thought it might be cheaper to start his own airline. With the collapse of Laker Airways in 1482, he seized the moment to found British Atlantic, designed as an "entertainment-orientated" airline with a business section named "Upper Class".

Two years later, still immersed in negonating licences and other preparatory work, fields approached Richard Branson as a potential investor. Branson was immediately enthusiastic. Within two weeks they had announced the change of name to Virgin Atlantic, and were airborne by June 1984. But they fell out within a year over Fields's abrasive management style, and parted by mutual agreement with Branson buying out Fleids's 25% holding for more than El million.

In lieu of a handsome severance settlement. Fields negotiated a nominal pay-off and his "dream ticket" - free first-class travel for life, for himself and two companions He also negotiated the same perk for his mother, who had lent him £5,000 to start the company, and any wife or children he might one day have.

The next two years saw Fields lose his £1 million in a vain attempt to start another airline, Highland Express. But the legal business generated by the problems of Lloyd's, along with his expertise in insurance archaeology, soon combined to make him a wealthy man again. As his fortune grew, so the inveterate gambler in him grew increasingly addicted to poker. A familiar figure on the tournament circuit in Britain and the United States, and a force to be reckoned with in the annual world poker championships in Las Vegas, he recently opened Jersey's first card room.

Stung by gibes about his lack of qualifications. Fields had also spent the last few years obtaining his ACII and Fellowship of the Chartered insurance institute. His other recent goal was to emulate his mother's achievement in winning a PhD in his forties. But his analysis of Lloyd's financial resources caused such displeasure in the insurance establishment that his research programme was suspended; not until late 1996, when he was already suffering from advanced kidney cancer. did his "Lloyd's Equitas project" finally receive the recognition it was due.

In 1986 Fields married a fellow barrister, Fiona Harvie-Smith. Their first child was born in December last year.

nal Services. Among the ele-

ments incorporated in its col-

DAVID COX

David Cox, composer and writer on music, died on January 31 aged 80. He was born on February 4.

FOR more than three decades, David Cox's arrangement of Lilliburlero has been familiar to listeners all over the world as the signature tune of the BBC World Service English news bulletins. Cox was for 20 years the Music Organiser for the World Service, in which capacity he did much to encourage British musicians and composers. But he was also a prolific writer on music, and a versatile and accomplished composer in his own right, whose works included songs, choral music, cantatas, instru-

mental pieces and commissions for various festivals. Born in Broadstairs, David Vassall Cox was brought up in Australia. Returning to Britain at the age of 19, he became an organ scholar of Worcester College, Oxford, and assistant organist of Christ Church. He also studied at the Royal College of Music — composition with Vaughan Williams and Herbert Howells, and piano with Arthur Benjamin. During the Second World War Cox played the B flat clarinet in RAF bands. He seldom had weekend leave, he recalled, since at Cranwell, where he was mostly based. the band had to play for dining in nights at the mess.

Music Organiser for the BBC External Services, a post he held until his retirement in 1976.

A sensitive and scholarly man. Cox revealed in his own compositions an assiduously cultivated and catholic literary taste. His Five Songs of John Milton reveal a harmonious sensitivity to English verse. Other notable works include A Greek Cantata, based on hedonistic texts from old comedies and lyrics translated by R.C. Trevelyan, and a cantaia. Of Beasts, based on anonymous medieval texts, in which deft musical descriptions of horse, crow, crocodile and unicom enliven a score already full of felicitous touches.

In 1969 Cox completed an opera. Children of the Forest, which included 40 children in its cast and, lasting for 60 minutes, was one of the main attractions at the arts festival held in Cookham, Berkshire, that year. He fulfilled several other festival commissions and in 1982 wrote an overture, London Calling, for the Golden Jubilee of the BBC's Exter-

ourful score are the chimes of Big Ben, the tune of Oranges and Lemons, the theme music of the external broadcast Calling the Falklands, and Nakankalyani, the signature tune of the BBC's Tamil broad-CASIS. Cox's own voice was rarely

heard on radio, although he did broadcast occasional talks. including two on plainsons. He was also active as a writer. contributing to the main musical periodicals as well as to Grove's Dictionary and other works of reference. His books included a study of Debussy's orchestral music. and The Henry Wood Proms, a classic account of a national institution, which effectively sums up the process of educating London's musical public from 1895 onwards. Cox's considerable inside know-ledge of BBC politics enabled him to lift the curtain on behind-the-scenes difficulties and internal wrangling, which may explain why the corporation decided not to mark the Proms centenary with a reprint of the book in 1995.

Last year, Cox's 80th birthday was celebrated with a concert of music by himself and some of his friends and relatives in the church in Tudeley with its famous Chagall windows.

David Cox's first wife. Barbara, predeceased him in 1982. He is survived by his second wife, Sybil, and by a son and two daughters of his first marriage, one of whom. Ali-son, is also a composer.

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE. ON THIS DAY BANKS of the ELBE, Feb.7

He joined the BBC in 1946,

working first as a music

producer on the Latin-Ameri-

can service and on the Third

Programme, becoming in 1956

"In all probability, you are at this moment better informed concerning the state of affairs in Poland than we are, who are so much nearer the scene of action. The French bulleting on the one side, and the official statement of General Bennigsen and the concurrent flying reports from different quarters on the other, are so contradictory, that we know not on which side there is most truth. The better opinion seems to be, that at least the hitherto victorious French army has received a signal check, and that on particular occasions advantages were gained by the Russians, which might have been improved into a victory. It seems probable that the decisive blow is at this moment struck, for it is certain that Buonaparte set out for the army from Warsaw on the 27th, and it is believed also that the Emperor Alexander has taken the field. It is this engagement which will show the world, whether the presence of Alexander at the head of his own troops, in his own dominions, may not avail more than that

February 13 "That the French are on the retreat, and have repeatedly suffered great loss, may be

of Francis at Austerlitz, and Frederick

February 26, 1807

The author of this "correspondence" was Henry Crabb Robinson, the first foreign staff correspondent of The Times and probably the first war correspondent ever to be appointed by a newspaper. In 1808 he went to Spain to cover the Corunna campaign.

inferred from their own statements, on a comparison with the map of Poland: and that reports of losses have been prevalent, in countries subject to the enemy, is evident from the severe measures taken against those who should be guilty of doubting the invincibility of the Great Army, directed by the genius of the Great Hero. Even in Jena, a threatening Proclamation was published by the Commandant of the town, against the propagators of reports disadvantageous to the French; and that, too, on the 4th of January, though the Treaty of Peace between France and the King of Saxony was signed on the 15th December.

and was to be ratified within 15 days, after which the regal authorities of the Sovereign would be of course restored to him. "The French Papers have briefly noticed the capture of Gen. Victor. This is said to have

been attended with some unusual circum-stances. Lieus. — had been dismissed the Prussian service for various excesses and irregularities, which the severity of Prussian discipline could not tolerate. He resided near Colherg, in Pomerania Posterior, and when the general disorganization of the Prussian army took place, animated by a warm love for his country, he, on his own authority, collected from the peasantry around him, a troop amounting to near 2000 men, which he armed as well as he could, and employed in scruring the country and watching the enemy. It was in one of these excursions he met with Gen. Victor, in whose possession he found 20,000 ducats, with which the General, it was supposed, was going to some fortress. which he hoped to secure in this manner. The Lieutenant immediately transmitted his booty to the King of Prussia, who, however, returned it to him, saying, that he had already shewn he well knew how to apply his resources in the defence of his country, that he might expend this sum in the establishment of his corps ..."

FAX: 0171-481 9313 William at Auerstadt ... ' Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received

Television viewers improve with age

BRENDA

ou'd think that they would see the joke, but no, terrestrial television chiefs are in hot pursuit of the audience least interested in watching television, and the smallest. I refer to young adults. With better things to do than sit in front of the box, this desired bunch probably doesn't even notice that TV is being redesigned to catch its preoccupied eyes. The age beyond which the viewer becomes unwanted varies with statistics. Sometimes, it is 45, as in Channel 5's description of its target audience as the 16-45s. Of course, C5 acknowledges that middle age is a state of mind and that all viewers are welcome. As Dawn Airey. C5's girlishly aggressive programme director told a questioner at the Royal Television Society's dinner last week: "You're not an old fart.

You'll enjoy our channel." Often, the limit is lower, with the desired viewer even being 35. If the senior half of the national TV audience were an ethnic group.

the disparagements voiced against it would be a case for the Commission on Racial Equality, Just last week, the Institute of Practitioners in Adverrising noted sorrowfully that "ITV's age profile is slipping once again." To advertisers, "slipping" means up, not down. The ITV audience is conspicuously older than that of the other channels (in peak time 42.4 per cent of its viewers are 55 or older) and - bad news for advertisers - tend to be

MADDOX ITV retorted that, as its peak time audience is the biggest of all the four terrestrial channels, it can boast more of every age group. It is also gaining in

the upper-income groups.

Is there not a demographic moral escaping the channel combatants? The older audience is the more desirable one. For commercial channels, those who have the money to buy the cars, computers, foreign holidays and long-distance telephone calls advertised on TV are those whose children are off their hands and who have paid off their mortgages. For the BBC, they are those with the attention span to devote to its science, history

and classic-drama programmes. The BBC, the demographer from Mars might think, should be immune from the cult of youth. It does not have to sell space to advertisers and all ages equally pay the licence fee. It knows that its programmes reach the older viewers. Last year BBC2 put out a series for the elderly last year called The Third Age, which advocated community service, ballroom dancing and even sex for pensioners, and ended with the sweet-sour news that by the year 2050 there's a good chance that many Britons will live to the age

So everything should be set for the BBC to roll with the population trends towards the greying audience. But that is not how the corporation sees the future. It too must tilt towards youth. It too seems about to redesign its news to appear to be less authoritarian. younger and more related to the lives of

Now it is understandable that any broadcaster is concerned with wooing tomorrow's audience. As every newspaper owner knows, there is no joy in having a million readers if many of them are not going to last the winter; the next generation must be attracted. But not with a mirror of their own world. One of the benefits of growing older is the realisation of not living in a world of one; either of one

person or one country.

Airey has been accused of thinking that today's young are a breed apart from the older generation. Yet in one sense it is right to diagnose an absolute gap between youth and age, marked by technology, sex and financial insecurity. Tomorrow's greying adults will be totally at ease with hundreds of television channels. They will be less worried about sexual scenes on television, less likely to flood the various complaints bodies with objections to this word or that, and

less given to writing to Radio 4 to protest about the sloppy pronunciation of "sekatary" for "secretary" But some human processes are eternal. Tomorrow's over-45s will be maturer and

wiser than they were in their thirties. They will see themselves as part of the human race, not just of their age group. Their horizons will broaden as their children move around the globe more freely than they themselves ever could. And, as they face the prospect of living for a century, they will be toler-ant of aging, happier to take their news from someone who looks like Trevor McDonald and whose face carries more memory of the past than from a born-yesterday such as C5's 27-year-old Kirsty Young. And they will be conscious of their numbers: grey power. They will be unquestionably the majority audience and what they will want is not television for protracted teenagers but television for

THE LISTENER

Two new recruits for Radio 2

FEEDING speculation that Radio 2 is out to steal even more listeners from Radio 1. the station has poached Richard Allinson, the early morning presenter on Capital FM. Radio I's big rival.

New radio audience figures show that Radio 2, which already employs Steve Wright, a former Radio 1 DJ, has overtaken Radio I for only the second time in its history. An estimated 300,000 of its new listeners are believed to have been picked up from Radio I. And in a further sign of Radio 2's drive for younger listeners, it has hired "whispering" Bob Harris from GLR, the BBC's local London station.

Picture imperfect

THE Bridgewater Three's release caused problems for photographers as they justled outside the Appeal Court to capture the first moment of



Allinson, left, and Harris: youth appeal for Radio 2?

freedom for James Robinson. Michael Hickey and Vincent Hickey. After 18 years in jail there were a few problems identifying them. One snap-per seemed to be confusing one of the Hickey cousins with The Express's gossip columnist, asking loudly: "Which one's William Hickey?" Confusion reigned at the Evening Standard, where a chap with a moustache and crewcut, who had earlier been led into court for a completely

identified as Michael Hickey and his photograph slapped on the front page.

Tina's arena

THE imminent departure of Tina Gaudoin from the deputy editor's chair at Tatler will cause further beadaches for Jane Procter, its editor, who has seen half a dozen senior staff leave in as many months. Gaudoin is to be the editor of a new fashion and lifestyle women's magazine inspired

by the men's magazine Arena. Is this the start of a trend? First there were glossy fashion and lifestyle women's magazines. Then publishers dreamt up glossy fashion and lifestyle magazines for men. These have proved so successful that they, too, are now being copied. For women. This autumn, Wagadon is to launch a magazine based on its men's title Gandoin says: "It will not be identical to Arena, but it will be a thought-provoking. glossy fashion monthly."

Jaspan's mistake ANDREW JASPAN'S bullish reputation is being revised since he modestly denied any responsibility for the soaring circulation of The Big Issue, of which he is publisher and

managing director. Despite the magazine's success, Jaspan was downbeat when addressing a Newspaper Society conference in Brighton, He said: "I remember Warwick Brindle Ithen Jaspan's boss telling me I was making the biggest mistake of my life leaving The Scotsman after only six months to edit The Observer, I guess you were right, Warwick."

A few hardened executives had what looked like tears in

 MIKE SMALLWOOD, the chief executive of Western International Media, the new media buying arm of Lowe Howard Spink has issued an unusual challenge to the radio industry. Having decided that his staff will benefit from having radio programmes piped into the toilets, he has invited national and London-based stations to pitch for the franchise. "He is," an insider said, "looking for something that will reflect the company's warm culture."

Sale of the Central

YOU might think that Central relevision, with a cash bid for the licence of just over £2,000, had enough money in its coffers. Even so, the station, whose productions include Sharp and Inspector Morse, has decided to auction off virtually the entire contents of its Broad Street, Birmingham HO after its imminent move to a swanky £15 million building in Gas Street. More than 8,000 lots will be flogged.

Style rather than stars

dramatically reopened the debate about style versus content in advertising by placing a double-page ad in Campaign. Costing an estimated £5,000, the ad reads: "We would like to remind the D&AD jury . . . that it is ideas that

move people, not techniques."

The ad coincides with this week's opening of judging for the Design & Art Direction awards. It refers to debate that has come to a head with the advent of ever-more sophisticated technology and star directors.

Tim Delaney - creative director of Leagas Delaney and a signatory and former D&AD president — says: "We are trying to make the jurors aware that it's not who's done the ad or what

Attractive Package

ADVERTISING

it looks like that is important, it's the idea. It's bad for the industry to be seduced by form."

IT APPEARS that advertising practitioners never tire of teaching their clients how difficult their job is. Lowe Howard-Spink jumped on the band-wagon this week by holding a two-day educational session for the benefit of 25 clients and new business prospects.

Marc Cave, Lowe's assistant managing director, insists: "It was not about showing clients how bard we work but about educating them to un-derstand the process and to come up

were divided into several groups and briefed to create a relaunch for Scalextric, the car game, in two days - slightly less time than the average agency would have.

THE Advertising Standards Authority has become involved in more controversy — over an ad for Hamilton House, the direct-mail company. Hamilton says the ASA disclosed confidential information about the company when investigating an objection by Dudley Jenkins, rival operators, to Hamilton's claim that it had more than 50 per cent of the market.



BELINDA ARCHER Scalestric two days to make it sexy

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2 |

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seas travel can be expected. Please apply in confidence, giving details of your career and current earnings, quoting reference MARK 97-05

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Free speech - use it or lose it

ournalists, by and large, have a fairly poor reputation, but I have come to believe that people who view investi-gative journalists in particular as being several steps beyond the pale often have something to hide. They will tell you their rights are being abused while they abuse the rights of others. They will tell you that investigative journalists are trying to usurp the system, even to pervert

the course of justice. The point that is often lost. however, is that journalists sometimes pursue stories precisely because "the system" or "British justice" has let down the very people they ought to be protecting. Investigative journalists are not perfect, but then neither is the society they report on. Much ails the body politic which cannot heal itself, even if it does acknowledge an illness. Many is the case we have followed, not to act as a selfappointed surrogate police force, not to usurp the due process, but as a direct result of the failure of that process, or because the system itself has been manipulated by one special interest group. An investigative article or programme often serves as a "court of last resort" and as such is hardly likely to earn the approval of the Establishment.

Sadly, there seem to be fewer regular outlets for quality investigative journalism these days. Do we think society is now well enough protected and regulated to settle back into smug silence? What is the point of a free press if that freedom

The ability to investigate and expose injustice is priceless, says Roger Cook

isn't fully used? The ability to investigate and to expose injustice, bureaucratic bungling and outright criminality is surely priceless. Use it or lose it they say, and that's especially true of Britain where freedom of speech is not a statutory right, and secrecy is a way of life for those who govern us. The system is not infallible (look at the mess made of the Stephen Lawrence case - with the result that his killers will probably escape scot-free). Where would the Bridgewater Three be now without the efforts of

investigative journalism is an expensive and time-consuming business, which is perhaps why now it is often replaced by the pseudo exposé, where presumption and assumption have superseded the search for hard facts. Bearing in mind that the ultimate bias is in the selection of the subject in the first place, every effort ought to be made to be fair thereafter. "Balance" is something else, in the real world, giving equal space or airtime to a philibustering fraudster is about as useful as a chocolate teapot.

There are many pitfalls — legal

investigative journalists such as

Paul Foot and David Jessel?

investigation. Will what you do genuinely preclude a fair trial? When does a pro-active approach become incitement? Is your research fireproof? Does what you propose exposing really maner to the person in the street, or is it for the esoteric edification of the inhabitants of a few square feet of the Square Mile? The list goes on. And it is beginning to look as if we may need more protection from those allegedly protecting us. You have probably heard stories about the

security firms who run protection

rackets or the policemen who run

You cannot learn everything about investigative journalism in a classroom, but you cannot do it properly without the right ground rules. That is why the masters degree course in investigative jour-nalism launched tomorrow by Nottingham Trent University is bound to be a worthwhile venture.

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in short, freedom of speech must be used to be preserved — but if it is abused by poor investigative jour-nalism, both will become devalued. • Details of the MA in Investigative

Journalism are available from Notting-ham Trent University on 0115 988 633S16077



Roger Cook and team: "Many is the case we have followed as a result of the failure of due process, or because the system has been manipulated

Changing sides: How the Tory press has fallen

longer, at least among newspaper readers. Only four national papers have a majority of readers who say they support the Tories, compared with nine daily and Sunday papers which did at the time of the 1992 general election.

Profession dear

- 21

STATE COOK F

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The Times has become the most representative broadsheet. The political views of its readers are now nearer those of the electorate as a whole

than its main competitors. The four Tory bastions remain the The Daily-Telegraph and The Sunday Telegraph, The Express and The Express on Sunday. By contrast, 75 per cent or more of the readers of The Guardian, The Observer, The Mirror and the Sunday

This is shown by a detailed analysis by MORI of the political views of newspaper readers between the 1992 election and the whole of 1996 from nearly 70,000 interviews. Support for the two main

parties has changed dramatically over the past five years. There has been a swing of 17.5 per cent from Tories to Labour since the 1992 election. Tory support has dropped by 15 percentage points, with Labour up 20 points, while the Liberal Democrats' rating has fallen by five points. The polls also reveal a rise from 6 to 10 per cent in those saying they will not vote. This could point to a rise in people staying at home and the lowest turnout since World War Two.

The striking feature of the latest analysis is the large variation between papers. In particular, the swing from the Tories to Labour among read-

ers of The Times was 26.5 per cent between 1992 and last

year. This reflects a combina-

tion of a change of voting

intentions among long-term readers of The Times and the

paper's circulation over the

MORI has devised a partisanship index which measures the support of readers of papers for the various parties

above 1.00 means that support for a party is above the national average, below 1.00

Only four national papers have a majority of readers who support the Conservative Party. Report by Robert Worcester and Peter Riddell

bution of voting intentions. Thus, an index rating of 1.00 is exactly in line with the national average. A reading

On the basis, support for Labour among readers of The Times has moved from 0.43 in 1992 to 0.78 last year. By contrast, the Tory index has declined from 1.49 to 1.39. In

percentage terms, 39 per cent of readers of The Times say

they support the Tories, and 43 per cent Labour. In 1992, the shares were 64 and 15 per cent respectively.

By contrast, party support among readers of other broadsheets has become more polarised. The Tory partisanship index among readers of The Daily Telegraph has risen from 1.67 to 1.93 since 1992. There has been a swing to Labour among its readers, but support for the party is still much lower than among voters generally, with a partisan-

ship index of 0.51, against 0.31 in 1992. Among the tabloids, the biggest switches in party sup-

port have occurred among

readers of previously strongly pro-Tory papers such as The Sun with a 22 per cent swing and the Daily Mail with a 20.5 per cent swing. In 1992, the political preferences of readers of The Sun were very close to those of the

slightly less Tory.
The readership of the Daily Mail is still predominantly Tory. Some 46 per cent of its

readers back the Tories and 36

electorate as whole and this is

still broadly true, although

Sun readers have become

per cent Labour. Its Tory partisanship index, measuring support relative to the national average, has risen from 1.51 to 1.64 since 1992, while its Labour index has risen from 0.40 to 0.65.

In the Sunday papers, the biggest swings from Tories to Labour have been among readers of the Independent on Sunday and The Sunday Times. The Tory partisanship index has risen since 1992 among readers of The Express on Sunday. The Mail on Sunday, and The Sunday Telegraph.

■ Robert Worcester is chairman of MORI and Peter Riddell is pol-itical columnist of The Times.

Good news, bad news and the headline grabbers

cuttings agency which reads nearly 200,000 newspapers and who want to track how and where their companies are reported, has started to monitor in detail the subjects covered in the British press. insights into the subjects and personalities deemed newsworthy by editors.

The first Durrants report ows that only weeks before general election Tony ir is cruising ahead of John Major in the spin doctors' battle to grab headlines. Analysing the 10 national newspapers and six regionals (in Edinburgh. Liverpool, Cardiff, Norwich, Portsmouth and Birmingham), it shows that the Labour leader had nearly twice as much coverage as Major in the past month - and that Labour got 10 times as much as the Conservatives.

David Reeds, the Durrants' press researcher, also analysed whether headlines were positive or negative. He found almost all the coverage of the Conservatives was negative, compared with just under half the reporting of Labour. Although the Liberal Democrats achieved more party political coverage than the Tories, it was

mostly negative. task of reading all the national papers every day, Reeds assumed that he would find they were full of



even though he was sur-prised at the amount of negative coverage of overseas news. "I got the impression that we don't like abroad very much, though that was much truer of the tabloids than the broadsheets," he says. Still surprising, even to

journalists, is the space given to sport. It received almost twice as many column centimetres as the economy. which was second in the table of "headline grabbers". Apart from science (16th). sport was the only subject where Reeds considered here was more positive than negative coverage. After sport and the economy, the most newsworthy subjects in the past month were politics, crime, the arts, health, education, .Europe and transport. Sex and royalty were 13th and 14th. News about

the weather came last. On personalities, Blair recrived marginally less coverage than Diana Princess of Wales, with Major fourth behind Sarah Duchess of York but above Michael Atherton, Prince Charles, Tim Henman, the Queen and Richard Branson.

tors seeking controversy by inviting former editors to attack the Daily Mirror (now The Mirror) have always failed. Roy Greenslade has been a fierce critic but Hugh Cudlipp, Mike Mol-loy and Richard Stott have refused to be drawn into making any criticism — at least publicly — of their successors. Even during John Pilger's demolition job on the modern Mirror last week, Cudlipp made no dir-

ect attack on editor Piers

Morgan or chief executive

David Montgomery.

however. came out of the closet this month and delivered a swingeing attack on The Mirror in the New Statesman. The paper (revamped last month) was mired in sexual trivia and obsessed by the triumphs and excesses of a sub-world inhabited by Stringfellow celebrities, he said. Montomery had no empathy for Mirror readers and did not understand newspapers.

Guardian. He pointed out

that when Pilger joined the Mirror in 1963, its sale was

glory days of the Mirror — but had the Daily Mirror been quite the paper its What about the front page splash in February 1959 devoted to a five-column picture of a bulldog at a microphone from a National Pets Club lunch and carried over to page 3 under the headline "Woof! Woof!"? Or all the pictures of girls he random from the 1960s? And what, too, about the modern Mirror's campaigns for Hillsborough relatives, Roy-

4,730,000; when he left in 1985 it was 3,100,000. Every-

vhere he went, journalists

talked in hushed tones of the

VAT on fuel, Rwandan refugees or a knife amnesty? look back to golden ages, but few had to deal with the gruelling competition faced daily by the editors of the 1990s. As Morgan pointed out, 30,000 Mirror readers die every year, and he needs to attract new, younger read-

al British Legion veterans,

The Mirror seems to be increasing its coverage of the Labour Party as the election approaches and also publishing a few longer reads. On Monday, 100, it named the man it claimed was really guilty of murdering Carl Bridgewater — but was that, as its critics say, simply an attempt to catch up with the Daily Mail which has named five men as murder-



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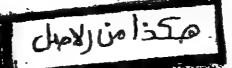
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1105	Facing the Music by Mary Sheepsharks	£1.95	-,	TT12	Wild Horses by Dick Francis	€1.95			
1106	Fury by Colin Forbes	£1.95		1113	The Rebel Angels by Robertson Davies	₹1.95			
1107	Golden Fox by Wilbur Smith	£1.95		TT14	The Ex-Wives by Deborah Moggach	£1.95			



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NEWS

Brown plans independent Bank

■ Gordon Brown will today announce the first steps a Labour government would take towards creating an independent Bank of England. He intends to change the personalised links between the Governor and Chancellor that created the socalled "Ken and Eddie show".

He wants to set up two new bodies to give him a much broader range of advice: a monetary policy committee, chaired by the Governor, that would formulate the Bank's advice, and a council of advisers for the Treasury

Billie-Jo's foster father released

The foster father of Billie-Jo Jenkins, the murdered schoolgirl, was released on police bail last night to return to Hastings police station in five weeks' time. Sion Jenkins, 39, was arrested on Monday and guestioned for 36 hours.....

BBC accused

The BBC was actused of political bias for giving a Radio 4 broadcaster five months paid leave to fight a seat for Labour Page I

Divorce and pensions Plans to allow divorcing couples to split their pensions at the time

they break up will be unveiled in a White Paper. But the proposals will not be retrospective and are unlikely to come into effect until

Queue for Tube

Railtrack and Virgin headed the queue of companies lined up to bid for the London Underground after the Government confirmed that the network will be privatisedPage 2

Cloning humans

The British scientists at the centre of a successful experiment to clone a sheep with DNA taken from an adult animal said the same techniques could possibly be used on humans......Page 3

Liberal flaw

Patricia Williams, the black feminist, delivering the Reith Lecture on racism argued that the liberal idea that "colour does not matter" was flawed Page 4

Princess's ciothes

Some of the 80 designer dresses belonging to Diana, Princess of Wales, which are to be sold at auction were displayed at Chris-

Healthy advice

Staples of the traditional school dinner will disappear from the menuil canteen cooks take the advice of Cheryl Gillan, the Education Minister Page 9

Court martial row

The British court martial system was condemned yesterday as unfair and in breach of human rights by nine judges in a unanimous ruling by the European Court of Human Rights . Page 11 Islamic advance

The Taleban Islamic army broke into northern Afghanistan after weeks of hand-to-hand fighting in extreme weather conditions high

Funeral drowned out Most citizens outside the centre of Beijing did not hear trains hoot

in the mountains Page 12

for three minutes for the death of Deng Xiaoping because of the thunderous noise of traffic and construction Page 13 Nuclear protest

Germany's militant anti-nuclear activists are preparing for the country's biggest showdown on atomic waste by attacking the railway network Page 14 Communist link

For the first time, a donor in the fundraising scandal that is swamping President Clinton was shown to have an official link to the Chinese Communist Government.

Kosher banquet at the Palace

■ Buckingham Palace went kosher when the Queen entertained President Ezer Weizman to a banquet at the start of the first state visit by an Israeli head of state. Part of the Palace kitchens were given over to Tony Page, London's leading Jewish caterer, to prepare the evening's menu for about thirty of the guests who inisted on strict dietary law



Carol Holmer leads her pony Turnip from his flooded field yesterday after a night of storms in Burford, Oxfordshire. Page 2

BUSINESS

NatWest: Shares in National Westminster fell after the bank revealed a fall in pre-tax profit and that it had pulled out of the race to take over Scottish Amicable Page 25

House buying: House buyers and sellers could both face paying the other side's legal and mortgage costs if they back out of a deal without good reason before exchanging contracts.....

Baringa: A former senior director, of Barings, which crashed in 1995 after Nick Leeson ran up £800 million losses, has been disciplined by a City watchdog

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 13.6 to 4344.7. Sterling's index rose from 97.7 to 98.0 after rises from \$1.6335 to \$1.6342 and DM2.7270 to ... Page 28

SPORT

Football: Alan Shearer, the England captain, had an operation on a groin injury which will keep him out of important European and Premiership matches for Newcastle United. Page 48

left for rugby league Alan Tait's career came full circle when he was named in Scotland's side to play Ireland.. .. Page 48 Athletics: Lobbying for the Olymple Games to introduce prize-

money is inevitable after athletes were offered \$100,000 for records at the world championships...Page 45 Raolng: Adrian Maguire will miss the Cheltenham Festival for the third year running after breaking his right arm in the Rutland Water Novices' Chase Page 43

ARS

and Graham Sheffield, the new men at the City's troubled arts centre, turn the RSC's absence during the summer months to the Barbican's advantage? Page 33 Rugby union: Nine years after he

old Joseph Erber will become the youngest composer performed by the LSO ...

tory but compelling Jamiroqual turn on their prodigious talent for funky, danceable disco-pop at a

Williams than A Streetcar Named Desire, as British theatre-goers about to find out.....

Nigelie Lawson asks if it pays to Berbican brooms: Can John Tusa. Riging star: On Saturday 12-year-

Jemmy dodgers: The contradic-

Cambridge gig...... Page 34 Touring Tennesses: There's a lot more to American icon Tennessee from Stratford to Plymouth are

TOMORICW THE IN THE TIMES

FILMS

Geoff Brown reviews Portrait of a Lady, with Nicole Kidman and John Malkovich

BOOKS Martin Bell on A Heart Turned East, examining the role of Islam in the West

lecture people. Surely we don't need the Government to tell us that exercise is good for us? Page 17 Symbol of resistance: Today the heroism of a Swedish diplomat is honoured by the Queen Page 17 Hat trick: Royal College of Art students, working with Kangol, have designed some stunning hats for different weddings _____Page 16

Political swing: Only four national newspapers have a majority of readers that say they support the Speaking out: What is the point of a free press if that freedom is not fully used, asks Roger Cook

Come clean: Builders who avoid VAT can now be informed on

Nobody has yet succeeded in formally establishing that capital punishment has a disuasive effect on active criminals. The best proof of this is that the most "enlightened" partisans now prefer chemical castration, with the not very surprising exception of the extreme right National Front who made it known that they were keeping all their confidence in the device of the good

doctor Guillotin - France Solr

Preview: From African farm to British dinner table, the story of the mangetout. Modern Times (BBC2, 9pm). Review: Matthew Bond on a journey of depravity...... Page 47

Downing Street Chairs

A regular problem of incoming governments is their inability to hit the ground running. All too often they look back and rue how they wasted the first year in finding their way while the Civil Service ran the country.....

Into Oxford

Oxford should not try too hard to be "just another university". It might succeed Page 19 Funeral Tears

Funderals are an unusual combination of stylised public ceremony and spontaneous, human emotion. The second often gives force to the

SIMON JENKINS

As long as central government refuses to let Londoners pay for a new Tube network, taxpayers at large will have to foot the bill. That PINTO-DUSCHINSKY

Had Roosevelt not acted two weeks before Wallenberg arrived in Budapest, there would have been no Jews left for him to rescue. Page 18 PETER RIDDELL

Public spending and taxes will be higher under Blair than Major but the increases will almost certainly be smaller than those recorded since 1992

SIMON BARNES

One day cricket is entertainment. So is professional wrestling. Professional wrestling goes for things like outrageous costumes, audience participation, loud and violent music, scene-stealing officials. So. does one-day cricket...... Page 46

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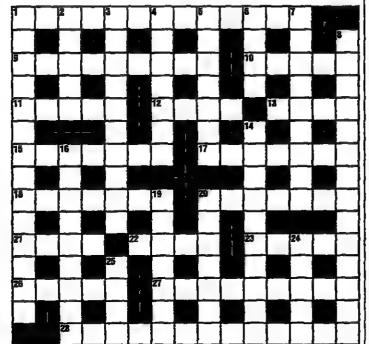
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Andrei Sinyavsky, Russian dissident writer, Randolph Fields, cofounder of Virgin Atlantic Airways: David Cox, composer and writer on music....

Firearms Bill: Cardinal Hume and others on retaining evidence; the stately homes of England; Rifkind's religion; genetic testing......Page 19:

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,413



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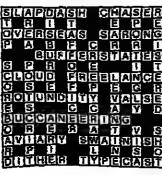
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- 1 Against new annexe with liquor. when we all have twelve-hour day
- 9 Outstanding artwork in blue, needing replacement (3.6).
- 10 Fiddler finally playing the same music (5). 11 One isn't prepared to address the
- 12 Returning to the old part of Chiswick (4).

House (2.3).

- 13 Comic sound effect enhancing hit production (4).
- 15 One may profit from getting 18 out of bed (7).
- 17 Nitrogen put in to preserve an item of bone structure (4-3).
- 18 Origin of Union given in history books (7).
- 20 Turned in creep mocking an equal (7).
- 21 One should follow audible directions (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,412



- 22 Like a horse that's neither first nor last - one of several arriving 23 Reptile and bird portrayed by
- artist (5). 26 Love the area - it's bracing (5).
- 27 Combined texts, for example, in rip-off - not glossy edition (9).
- 28 Help coward to escape youngster (6.7).

- 1 People's party secures right for one over eighteen, perhaps (6,8). 2 It may spur plasterer with shortage of time (5).
- 3 One German's agreed to infiltrate a brazen revolution in part of Jran
- 4 Outstanding issue incorporating new printing measure (7). 5 Get a French dress or shift out of
- 6 Half normal? Not in dialect (4). 7 Nagging wife disturbed Texan inhaling joint quietly (9). 8 Usual choice of outdoor venues

the doth (7).

- (6,2,6). 14 The Diet of Worms? (10). 16 Offenive broadcast on box promises to make amends (9).
- study (7). 20 Article put in as a mathematical section of standard texts (7). 24 Airline has equipment done up in colourful design (5).

19 Just a taste of the French course to

25 Ridicule disheartened Yorick (4). Times Two Crossword, page 48

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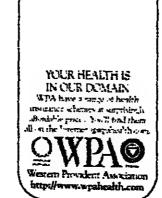
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have a showery day, the showers mainly in the west at first but developing elsewhere during the morning. In Northern England, they may be persistent, falling as snow on hills Winds will be brisk and it will feel rather cold in the wind. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have bright or sunny spells but showers are likely in northern Scotland and, during the morning, over Northern Ireland. Winds

🗖 General: England and Wales will

☐ London, SE, SW & Central S England, E Anglia, Midlands, Channel leles, S Wates: bright intervals and showers, perhaps some more prolonged showers spreading east during the day. Wind strong, west

or southwesterly, turning northwest-erly later Max temp 8C (46F). DE England, N Wales, NW England, Central N: bright intervals and showers, perhaps prolonged Becoming dner and clearer. Wind moderate, southwesterly, becoming tresh north-westerly. Max temp: 7C (45F).

England, Northern Ireland; rather cloudy. Outbreaks of rain during the morning, perhaps some sleet or show for a time. Mainly dry and bright later. Wind variable, becoming tresh north-westerly. Max temp: 7C (45F).

Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: bright or sunny spells and scattered showers. Wind light, variable, becoming moder ate westerly. Max temp: 7C (45F). Continued to the continued of the contin 5C (41F).

I Shetland; wintry showers dying out, but sleet or snow is likely later. Wind strong, northwesterly, easing and becoming south-easterly. Max temp: 4C (39F).

Outlook: dry at first; becoming well and windy but brighter later.

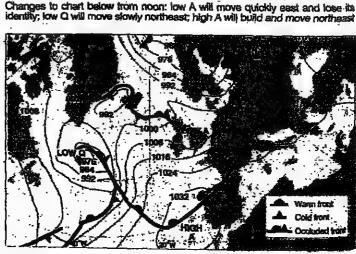
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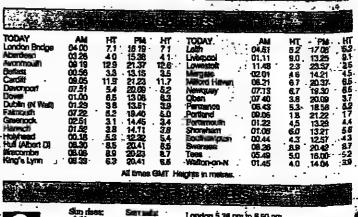
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Sunny

Sunny Cloudy Crizzie Overcast dad Rain Sunny showers showers Sleet and **Lightning** Hell M 35 Snow Temperature (Celsius) Wind speed (mph) & direction





LAST CHANGE MARCH 2

INSIDE SECTION TODAY



arts

What do these men have in mind for the Barbican? **PAGES 33-35**



HOMES

Building trade feels the pressure of VAT **PAGE 41**



SPORT

Shearer ruled out of Uefa Cup ties by surgeon's knife **PAGES 43-48**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26 1997

Shares decline by 36p as bank stays silent on buyback programme

NatWest hit by cost of restructuring

By Marianne Curphiey

SHARES in NatWest dropped 36p to 7762p after the bank reported huge restruc-turing costs and gave no indications of when it might begin a new programme of buying back shares.

The high street bank, which is in the middle of a radical branch closure programme, also revealed that it had dropped out of the bidding for Scottish Amicable, the munual

life company.

Derek Waniess, chief executive, confirmed that he had signed a confidentiality agreement to inspect the mutual's finances, but decided the price tag was too high and with-drew on Monday. This now leaves five bidders still interested in Scottish Amicable ahead of Priday's closing date

The bank gave warning that it was becoming more cautious on lending to small businesses, property and construction companies, which it regards as high-tisk in the current economic climate.

In the late 1980s high street banks suffered large losses when they lent to some small businesses that collapsed during the recession. Mr Wanless economic cycle when bad lending decisions are made."

Lord Alexander of Weedon, chairman, said: "We see the pace of growth slowing in 1996 and are adopting a more cautious approach to lending." Surplus capital would be returned to shareholders, he said, but gave no indications of when this might be. Some analysts had expected the

bank to announce that it would spend £220 million buying back a further 28 million shares. Pre-tax profit for the group in 1996 was £1.12 billion, down from £1.75 billion in 1995. This figure included a gain of £224 million from the sale of investments in the venture capital group 3i, and losses of £719 million from the disposal of subsidiaries, including £690

relating to the redesign of the NatWest has set a target of

million from Bancorp in the

United States and £186 million

reducing its retail branches to 1,750 and its staff by 10,000 years. The bank closed 302 branches last year and now has 1,921 still operating. Staff numbers have been reduced by 2,900, to 32,400, since 1995 at a cost of £95 million in redundancy payments.

Mr Wanless declined to

NatWest was seeking £10 million compensation from Tesco in a dispute over the loyalty card service it provided.

He revealed that the group will spend an extra £100 million this year to upgrade its technology, phis £100 million over the next two years on

preparing for the millennium. City eyes were on NatWest Markets, the investment banking arm which the bank has been trying to grow to rival Barclays BZW. NatWest Markets reported a 52 per cent increase in pre-tax profits, to £462 million, after BZW turned in disappointing results last week. However, NWM's bad-debt provision was sharply reduced from E114 million in 1995 to £18 million last year. With this stripped out underlying profits grew by 13 per cent. Mr Wanless said the acqui-

sition of Gleacher in 1995 and Gartmore, Greenwich and Hambro Magan last year had helped to "fill the key strategic gaps" in NWM. Further ac-quisitions were not needed. Operating profit on the

group's continuing businesses was up £339 million, or 27 per cent, to El.61 billion. At NatWest UK, income incressed by 6 per cent while costs fell by 2 per cent.
A final dividend of 19.4p will

be paid on May 1, bringing the total to 29p, up 14.6 per cent. Earnings per share were 23p (1995: 67.6p), while headline earnings per share were 66.6p ((1990: 04.90) ratio improved by 0.1 per cent, to 10.8 per cent, and tier one ratio was unchanged at 6.7 per cent. A share repurchase scheme already in place amounted to E451 million in

No bill for Tesco, page 27



Lord Alexander, NatWest chairman, flanked by Richard Delbridge, left, chief finance officer, and Derek Wanless, group chief executive, at the bank's art gallery in the City

Seventh **Barings** director banned by SFA

BY JASON NISSÉ

JAMES BAX, who ran the Barings office where "rogue trader" Nick Leeson worked, vesterday became the seventh former director of the merchant bank to be banned by the Securites and Futures Authority (SFA) after its inqui-ry into the bank's collapse. Mr Bax accepted the ruling that he should be banned for 21 months and pay £10,000 expenses, saying that he could not afford the "substantial costs" of defending himself

against the SFA's charges. Mr Bax's solicitor, Marie-Caroline Frochot of Richards Butler, said Mr Bax had hoped to pay for the hearing through an insurance policy taken out by Barings, but that cover was unconfirmed. Mr Bax's defence costs would have exceeded £100,000.

He and nine other former Barings chiefs were yesterday served notices by the Depart-ment of Trade and Industry, which said it would try to have them disqualified as directors for between two and 15 years. lan Hopkins, former head of treasury at Barings, has a week to decide whether to appeal against an order banning him for three years. Mr Hopkins, who has been called the whistleblower because of his memos about Leeson, has not appeared before the SFA.

The only ex-Barings director to fight the SFA has been Ron Baker, who ran the financial products operation. He was given a public reprimand and asked to pay £7,500 costs and has now lodged an appeal. Mary Walz, who worked

with Mr Baker, accepted a reprimend and five directors have agreed to bans of up to three years and paid costs of

BUSINESS TODAY

LONDON MONEY STERLING

RALIDO 222

Pounding

Worldwide success for the Spice Girls could not prevent EMI, the music company, from suffering a dip in thirdquarter earnings. The soaring pound knocked £16 million off profits. Page 27

war cnest

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premiums!

Guardian Royal Exchange has built up a El billion war chest to fund acquisitions at home and abroad. The shares fell on fears that the insurance group could become embroiled in a costly battle.

Hughes sees future in The Mirror

PENNY HUGHES, pictured, former president of Coca-Cola Great Britain & ireland, was yesterday made a non-executive director of Mirror Group (Morag Preston writes). A key figure in the "cola" wars". Ms Hughes left the fizzy drinks corporation in January 1995 before having a baby. For a fee of £30,000, she will work 25 days a year for Mirror Group, publisher of The Mirror, and it is expected

audit committee. Ms Hughes, who is in her mid-thirties, is also & non-executive director of Next, Berisford and The Body Shop. She was on the board of the beauty remporium last year when a decision was made not to take the company private.

that she will sit on the



Wimpey expecting a peak year

GEORGE WIMPEY, the UK's an average price of £84,000. Wimpey Homes contributbiggest house builder, yesterday said that it expects 1997 to be a peak year in the housing market, as it reported doubled pre-tax profits of £31.5 million. Last year's profit was the highest since 1990, but Wimpey expects substantially more this year. Some City analysts expect profits to dou-ble again, to about £60 million.

Joe Dwyer, chairman, said that Wimpey had enjoyed buoyant trading in the first eight weeks of this year. He said that rising house prices are feeding through to the new homes market. "In the last quarter of 1996, the recovery in the housing market started in

Mr Dwyer expressed little concern about the effect of the forthcoming general election. He said: "There may be a small hiatus, perhaps a week or two either side of the general election, but otherwise [the

market] should remain good."

Wimpey's recovery last year was aided by its deal with Tarmac, swapping its con-struction and minerals businesses for McLean Homes. This has left Wimpey concentrated on housebuilding, with scope for savings from increased purchasing power. McLean Homes contributed £45.7 million of operating profits on £492 million of

sales, completing 5,957 sales at

ed profits of £20 million (£28.3 million) on reduced sales of £419.8 million. Private housing sales fell from 5,802 to 5,018, leading to a fall in margins. Wimpey blamed this on a "tired" product range. It has introduced new designs, in-corporating space-saving fea-tures in kitchens and bath-

rooms and offering more variety in external appearance. In the US, Morrison Homes continued to expand rapidly, completing 1,400 sales. Although it lost £2.2 million last year, it is now making profits. Wimpey was held back by £20 million of interest payments on debts that ended the year at £178 million, up from £165 million the year before.

Wimpey hopes to cut its borrowings through the sale of £110 million of properties and Earnings per share re-

bounded from 1.6p to 5.84p. A final dividend of 3.5p is due on May 8. This maintains the total at 5.5p, and is just covered by earnings.

Labour proposes penalties for broken house deals

BY SARA MCCONNELL

HOUSEBUYERS and sellers could both be faced with paying the other side's legal and mortgage costs if they back out of a deal without good reason before exchang-

ing contracts Labour yesterday outlined proposals to tackle the practice of gazumping by means of a costs guarantee agreement. This would compel each side to pay the other's costs as well as their own as the penalty for withdrawing from a prospective sale between the acceptance of an offer and exchange of con-tracts. This would "act as a deterrent to gazumping while

not imposing unduly rigid controls on the market". Under such a system buyers and sellers could be required to put up a pre-contract deposit, against which either side could claim costs if the other

Juo esprid agrees a price then goes back on it because he has been offered a better one, is growing as the housing market improves and prices rise. Labour's plans closely mir-

ror voluntary proposals to tackle gazumping amounced last week by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). Under the RICS

scheme, penalties would be linked to the purchase price on top of the seller's costs. Other measures being can-vassed by Labour include the extension of "lock-out agreements", whereby buyers and sellers agree to be bound by

an agreed timetable. Labour also raises the possibility of introducing the Scottish system of housebuying to England. In Scot-land, buyers submit bids and the deal is binding once a bid is accepted. But Scottish buyers incur more upfront costs and can find themselves forced to take out expensive

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Jobs threatened as Union goes on sale es in the last few weeks. A company that 1996 interims had been swelled by

A DRASTIC restructuring at Union Plc, the financial services and trading group, put the company on the market yesterday. The changes also end the group's historic role as a discount house supplying liquidity to the bank-

The group, founded in 1885, said it is pulling out of proprietary trading and

announced the departure of George Blunden, chief executive, and lan Martin, managing director, as part of a wide cost-cutting exercise.

Graeme Knox, chairman, is to temporarily take over as executive chairman. A "substantial programme of redundancies" among Union's 170 staff is expected.

Union said the board has received several unsolicited takeover approachstatement added: The interests of shareholders could be best served through a takeover." Shareholders include Joe Lewis, the

billionaire financier, who owns 24 per cent. Shares closed 8½p up at 95p. Union said yesterday that 1996 operating losses were estimated at £1.7 million, despite a first-half pre-tax profit of £3.4 million. Mr Knox said

a pension fund surplus.

After diversifying disastrously into leasing and property lending in the 1980s, the group is now active in the football sector as adviser to seven clubs. Its main businesses are UFM, a liquidity manager, and Union CAL, a derivatives broker. Talks to sell Aitken Campbell, its equity market-maker. are advanced.

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Kvaerner may close Govan if it loses order

BUSINESS NEWS

By George Sivell

KVAERNER, the Norwegian shipbuilding and engi-neering group, is likely to close the Govan yard on the Clyde if it fails to win a big order. Closure of the yard

would cost 1,400 jobs. Kvaerner, which is now managed in London, said that it expects a decision on a big order later this week or early next week. If it fails to win it, Kvaerner said, it is likely to close the yard". However, the group added: We are working hard to seek opportunities for it."

The Norwegians said that losses at Govan in 1996 were "not satisfactory". Kvaerner yesterday reported disappointing results for 1996, registering a fall in profits before tax to NKr750 million (£69.4 million), from NKr2.4 billion, on sales up to Kr58.6 billion, from Kr30.2 billion. Profits for 1996 include a

Limits on society bonuses test law

By CAROLINE MERRELL

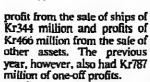
THE decision by building societies to restrict bonus payouts to the first named one of the first tests of new laws aimed at ending discrimination against the disabled, Alistair Burt, the Social Security Minister,

said today. The effect of limiting payouts to the first name means many disabled, sick and elderly savers will not benefit from the free shares bonanza because they relying on trustees to operate their accounts.

Consumer organisations and campaigners claim this is discriminatory. In particular, they have criticised the Halifax for its stance. This week, Halifax members voted overwhelmingly in favour of turning the society in to

Raising the issue at question time in the Commons, Liz Lynne (LDRochdale) said that If the Disability Discrimination Act was the flagship of Government policy against the disabled, then it should be used against building societies such as the Halifax.

Mr Burt said: There is a dispute of opinion as to whether or not the action by the building societies actually contravenes the Act. I believe someone is preparing to test it." He welcomed the Building So-cieties (Distributions) Bill brought by Douglas French (C Gloucester).



Erik Tonseth, Kvaerner's president and chief executive. said: "The 1996 results are most unsatisfactory. Cost reductions and restructuring will continue in 1997, but with continuing pressure on mar-gins and short-term overcapacity in some of our businesses, it is unlikely that profits will improve significantly until the second half of 1997." However, the company president added: "There is room for guarded optimism in several of our markets, as demonstrated by the recent orders in oil and gas and pulp

Earnings per share fell to Kr19.87, from Kr40.78, although the dividend for the rear remains unchanged at

Kvaerner acquired Trafal-gar House, the property, engineering and ships con-glomerate in April 1996. The Norwegians had been ex-pected to sell Trafalgar's Cunard cruise ships shortly after the deal was concluded, but appeared to be unable to find a buyer.

Kvaerner yesterday said that it had no plans to sell Cunard, adding that the first priority was to "get the business back into profitability". Cunard was said yesterday to have had a disappointing tourth quarter. Liquidity was described as satisfactory after a Kró billion disposal spree during 1996 from both the old Kyaerner and Trafalgar

THE Australian Securities Commission (ASC) is taking

Nomura International, the Jac-

anese investment bank, to court

for alleaedly manipulating the

The case, the first of its kind

in Australia, comes after an 11-

month inquiry into alleged ab-

normal trading by Nomura on

the Australian stock exchange

and the Sydney Futures Exchange on March 29, 1990.

when the all-ordinaries index

fell 25 points in the final half

hour of trading. The ASC al-

leges that Nomura engaged in market manipulation and mis-

leading and deceptive conduct"

in relation to its unwinding of a

The arbitrage, ordered by

Nomura's London office and

carried out through its Hong Kong office, involved allowing

12,844 share price index futures

large arbitrage position.

Australian stock market.

Nomura faces

trading charge

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

£300 million) of securities near

the close of trading.

The ASC also alleges that Nomura engaged in "wash trading" — trading with itself

- and that its conduct was

calculated to create a "false or

misleading appearance" with

respect to the price of the

The ASC is seeking both a

declaration by the Federal Court of unlawful conduct and

an injunction against Nomura

to prevent conduct of this

Nomura rejected the allega-tions, saying: "Nomura Inter-

national denies any wrongdo-ing, can see no legal or factual

basis on which the ASC's alle-

gations can be sustained and

will be vigorously defending

ftself. The transactions re-

ferred to in the ASC allega-

tions were legitimate stock in-

nature happening again.

futures contract.



Gus Macdonald, centre, with Gary Hughes, left, and Andrew Flanagan yesterday

Think-tank

condemns

job fears

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government's claims that signing the European social chapter will plat half a

million people out of work are dismissed today by

Britain's leading independ-

people in Britain would go

However, the Employment Policy Institute today

says that such claims are

"overblown, inaccurate and

unresearched". The insti-

tute says that in fact there is

no clear evidence that em-

ployment protection mea-sures such as the social

chapter increase total

unemployment.

on the dole.

Caledonian deal helps Scottish TV to a high

THE acquisition of Caledonian Publishing and strong programming income helped to lift profits of Scottish Television, the ITV company, to

The company yesterday reported pre-tax profits before exceptional items of £28 million, up 40 per cent, in the year to December 31, on turnover from continuing operations of £114.7 million, up 16 per cent Earnings per share were 31p, up from 27.4p.

Caledonian, which was bought last October for £120 The Herald and the Evening Times in Glasgow, contribut-ed £1.7 million in operating profits. Analysts expect Caledonian to enhance company earnings significantly in 1997.

A string of new programme commissions, ranging from McCallum to Snug and Cozi, boosted Scottish Television's operating profits from production by 43 per cent, to E3.3 million, their highest ever. Broadcasting also performed well, with a 24 per cent rise in profits, to £20.6 million.

Pre-tax profits including exceptional items were £61.2 million, against £20.2 million in 1995. The sale of the stakes in ITN and HTV, the ITV company in the west of Eng-land and Wales, provided the bulk of the gains.

Gus Macdonald, executive chairman, said that trading conditions so far this year were encouraging and that the launch of Channel 5 next month was "no cause for concern" to Scottish Television, where Gary Hughes is finince director and Andrew Flanagan is managing di-rector. The City does not think that the new channel will pose a competitive threat to the ITV companies until 1998.

A final dividend of 13.2p. due on May 29, makes the total dividend 18.7p, up 15 per cent. The shares rose by 72p,

Tempus, page 28

EU regional aid should continue

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EUROPE should sustain regional aid to Britain's still hard-pressed older industrial areas at its present level, local authorities from the traditional steel, coal and textile dis-

ent employment think tank. tricts will urge today. A new campaign group, covering more than 130 local John Major has attacked the social chapter as a "Troauthorities, will today caution against what it sees as a jan horse" and said earlier this month that if Labour serious threat to EU regional forms a Government and ends the UK opt-out from the aid in Britain posed by Euro-EU's social chapter, 500,000 pean enlargement.

Regional aid to Britain is secure until the end of 1999, at the end of the current planned European spending round. But with a range of Eastern European countries likely to join the EU, local authorities in Britain fear that they could draw off large amounts of the European funding currently used by older industrial areas

Britain's traditional industrial areas presently receive

almost £1 billion a year from the EU in regional aid - the single largest source of fund-ing for industrial regeneration in parts of the UK that used to be dominated by industries such as coalmining, shipbuilding, steelmaking and tex-

tile manufacture.
The EU's "Objective 2" funding — aid for older industrialised areas — could become the prime target for cuts to meet the cost of helping new EU member states with levels of GDP per head about a third of current EU

Britain has by far the largest slice of Objective 2 funding from the EU based on its number of assisted areas, but the Alliance for Regional Aid will argue today that the industrial cities of the North, Wales. Scotland and the Midlands may all face cuts in

Pressure on profits at mutuals

BY SARA MCCONNELL

and Newcastle building societies fell sharply last year as both societies improved sav-

The Coventry saw pre-tax profits nearly halve to £24 million in 1996 over those of the previous year after it introduced benefits costing £20 million. This cut the margin between what it pays savers and what it charges borrowers from 1.83 per cent to 1.25 per cent.

mortgage discounts for bor-

Philips seeks \$421m in cable stake sale

PHILIPS ELECTRONICS, the consumer electronics PHILIPS ELECTRONICS, the consumer electronics group, plans to raise about \$421 million through the sale of its 50 per cent interest in UPC, the biggest private cable operator in Europe. The interest is being sold to United International Holdings (UIH), the American company that is Philip's partner in the joint venture. UPC holds stakes in cable operators in 14 European countries, representing a total of more than 3 million households. representing a total of more than 3 million households and nearly 2.1 million subscribers.

UIH is headquartered in Denver, Colorado, and is one of the main US cable operators active outside the United States. Philips, which is in the process of restructuring its diverse businesses to boost profits, indicated last year that the interest in UPC was no longer considered a core asset and was earmarked for disposal. The consideration includes about \$162 million in new UPC securities, which Philips will sell on after the disposal is completed, which is expected to be in the third quarter of this year. Richard de Lange, president of Philips Media, said: "Philips believes the future of UPC is best served by having investors who are dedicated to this type of industry."

Scottish Widows licence

SCOTTISH WIDOWS has been granted a licence to set up a life assurance company in Jersey that will provide lump sum investment products and regular savings pensions plans aimed at expairates and high-net-worth mobile international investors. Products will be sold mainly through brokers broad in the LIW and allowed to the products will be sold mainly through brokers. based in the UK and overseas. The company is being set up under the new Insurance Business (Jersey) Law 1996 and is only the second such licence to be granted by the Jersey authorities. The new company will be called Scottish Widows International Ltd. The product range will be launched in the summer. Mike Ross, group chief executive, said the licence had been secured as part of a "strategic, long-term" plan.

Core valued at £73m

CORE GROUP, the drug developer based in Scotland, will be valued at £73 million when it joins the main exchange on Monday. The company, whose drugs are used in the controlled release of medicines in the body, is raising £23 million from the placing, which it plans to use to fund more of its prototype drugs through clinical trials. It expects to release its first products to the market next year. NM Rothschild has placed 9.2 million of its shares year. NM Rothschild has placed 9.2 million of its shares with institutions at 250p apiece.

Share incentives grow

SHARE incentives are spreading among growing businesses. More than half the companies floated on the Stock. Exchange last year had share incentive schemes available to all established employees, according a survey by Paisner & Co. the solicitor. Out of 63 companies first listed in 1996, 39 operate all employee share schemes. But directors still do far better: 52 companies had Revenueapproved executive share schemes and even more had non-approved schemes for top executives

Admiral's target

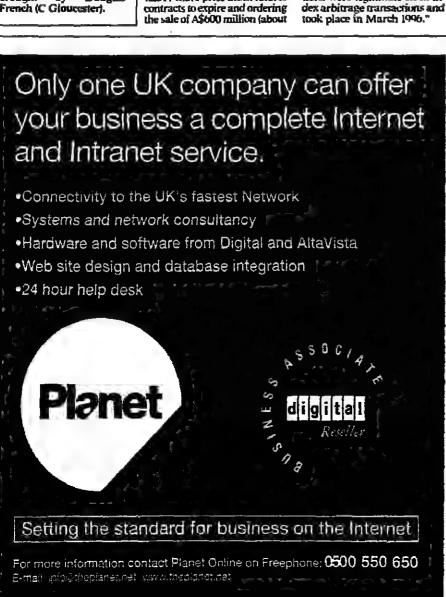
ADMIRAL, the computer services company; is targeting Belgium for its next acquisition after its cash pile grew 18 per cent last year to £6.1 million. The company said that it is looking to boister Delphy, the Belgian computer consultancy it bought two years ago. A disappointing performance from its software division held back growth in pre-tax profits to !! cent, taking the total to £11.2 million. Earnings nudged up by 0.9p to 11.6p per share. A final dividend of 1.54p makes a 2.24p total (1.88p), due on May 7.

Woolwich savers move

THE formerly neglected small saver is fast becoming the new darling of banks and building societies. The Woolwich yesterday halved the minimum investment on its Premier 30 account from £100 to £50 and lifted the rate for savers with balances of less than £500 from I per cent to 2.85 per cent. This is below the 5.75 per cent being offered by the newly launched Sainsbury's Bank on amounts of as little as £1: Tesco's Clubcard Plus pays 5.5 per cent again on deposits of £1 or more. Small savers have been shut out of many societies by higher minimum investment levels imposed to deter speculators.

SCS listing in danger

SCS SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS, which installs and repairs satellite television dishes, is in danger of being ejected from the Alternative Investment Market after Williams de Broe resigned as its nominated adviser. The company said it is in talks with possible replacements and hopes to name one soon. If it fails to do so within two months, it will be removed from the market. Williams de Broe's resignation comes one week after the London Stock Exchange completed its review of nominated advisers, which found fault with 25 City firms.



US utility buys 25% of BG subsidiaries in Northern Ireland

A LEADING US utility com-pany is taking a stake of almost 25 per cent in Northern freland's new gas industry. BG, one of the successor

companies to British Gas, is selling a 24.5 per cent interest in each of its two Northern treland subsidiaries to Brooklyn Union Gas Company, of New York, the fifth-largest gas company in America, for an undisclosed sum.

The investments in The Phoenix Natural Gas Company and Premier Transco, the pipeline company, are intended to give a boost to the emerging gas market in Northern Ireland.

Phoenix and Premier are leading the development of the natural gas market in Ulster. Phoenix is building a gas distribution system and natural gas market, initially in the Belfast area. About 70km of pipeline has already been constructed, Premier Transco owns and operates the gas pipeline linking Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Brooklyn Union is a gas distribution company that provides gas services to 1.1 million customers in New York. Its subsidiaries own diversified businesses in gas exploration



and production and in the Iroquois pipeline, which transports Canadian gas to northeastern United

David Varney, chief executive of BG, said: This transaction demonstrates BG's abilities to develop projects which are attractive to other international partners and to leverage its scarce resources in high-quality partnerships."
Sir Patrick Mayhew, the

Northern Ireland Secretary. said the investment by Brook-lyn Union represented a significant boost for

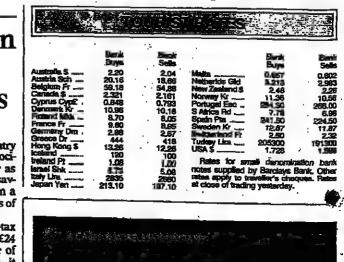
PROFITS at the Coventry

ings and mortgage rates in a bid to highlight the benefits of mutual ownership.

But the society says this "planned narrowing" resulted in a rise of almost 50 per cent in net mortgage advances to £216 million. Net retail savings receipts rose by nearly 44 per cent to £260 million.

At the Newcastle, pre-tax profits fell to £11.5 million in 1996, down from £14.7 million in 1995. The society has introduced a loyalty programme of rowers of five years' standing to demonstrate the value of mutuality in a tangible way".

Net lending rose by 67 per cent to £137 million, while net retail investment rose by 38 per cent to £107 million.





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YOUR BUSINESS COULD SAVE

MERCURY

DIGEOLOGY has played a cruel trick on the oil industry by locating much of the world's locating much of the world's remaining reserves in politically unstable countries with human rights records that leave a great deal to be desired. Pulling oil out deal to be desired. Pulling oil out of the ground would be so much easier if the wells were just outside Bradford rather than Burma, in East Grinstead and

not East Timor. But nature has decreed that the oil companies must stand on the frontline of the battle over investment ethics — a battle that has already claimed a notable victim in the form of Shell. Shell spent two years demonstrating exactly how not to deal with criticism of its operations in Nigeria, ignoring a few little local difficulties until opposition ran out of control.

Burma looks set to become the next cause célébre for oil company ethical investors, Until recently, the country had been up there with North Korea and prepyramid scheme Albania as an inward-looking dictatorship, except without the Stalinist trimmings. There are reports that government forces are clearing villages and committing massacres in the south of the country as they try to suppress the Karen ethnic rebels. That region, echoes of Nigeria's Ogoniland, just happens to be the site of a new gas pipeline from Burma's offshore

If only they were Tunbridge wells

British company, has taken a 30 per cent stake in the pipeline and can expect to find itself a target of can expect to und itself a target of campaigners. Premier is fortunate in that it has no retail outlets to be boycotted by protesters, and as the company has only taken an investment role in the project it is unlikely to face the direct anger of the local population unlike operating partner Texaco.
But the least Premier can expect
is chaos at the annual meeting.

The danger for the companies involved is that they will fall back on the usual platitudes about "differing standards" - a direct quotation from Premier. and one all too reminiscent of the apologies trotted out by some of the world's worst regimes to justify violations of their people's human rights.

Companies have to accept that questions over the ethics of their investment policies are not going to go away. There is a fine line between foreign investment that improves the lot of the local population and investment that merely props up a pariah

regime.
This should not rule out invest-

fields to Thailand. Premier Oil, a ment in countries with dubious regimes. Companies can act as a force for good, setting high employment standards, contributing to the local economy and gently using their leverage with the government to improve the lot of the local population. But the case cannot be taken for

> A willingness to be accountable, perhaps by publishing a clear code of practice showing what an individual company will and will not tolerate of its clients, would improve the standards of debate on both sides. It could also head off serious trouble. Premier, please note.

NatWest rides out the storm

AS THE southern half of the country has once again discovered, hatches are best battened down well in advance of the storm — it is too late once the chimney pots are already flying. To extend the meteorological metaphor further, for Derek chief executive at NatWest Group, every silver

PENNINGTON

lining, in the form of a strong economy, has a cloud.

Last year's figures from
NatWest, as we presomely must remember to call it, tell us little about the actual state of the business. There were losses and gains on disposals, and the previous year's numbers were restated. So much of yesterday's fall in the share price may merely have reflected the an-alysts' confusion.

But if NatWest says it can detect an approaching storm, as measured by a slowdown in economic growth next year, and so more business failures and private loans going sour, then the first few gusts were audible yesterday. Bad debts may have fallen by 4 per cent, but if you

on Eurotunnel in 1995 the actual rise was closer to 17 per cent, as against a loan portfolio that rose

Of course, anyone who has been around since the 1987 hurricane knows this is how the bank lending cycle works. The suspicion must be that NatWest is keen to emphasise caution to the stock market because of questions over the rest of its strategy. There was certainly concern about higher spending on computers, £200 million ahead of forecasts over the next couple of years at a time when all banks are under pressure to cut

UK banking costs. There were doubts about the money being spent building up NatWest Markets, despite a good performance last year. And there was the inevitable foolish grumbling over the lack of a share buy-back. Against these negatives, the decision not to become embroiled in the battle for Scottish Amicable looks a wise one.

NatWest has made its strategy clear - whether you believe it is the correct one depends on your view of the future of UK domestic and investment banking. But the bank is clearly determined to keep its competitive edge.

State of independence

ONE of the little fictions on the stock market that we are not supposed to discuss is the value of research that comes out of the so-called house broker. It is tacitly accepted that a company that pays broker's fees is entitled not to be kicked too hard by the resident analyst. There are heroic exceptions; there are also cases such as RJB Mining, where the house broker was the last to admit the bad news.

The trouble with huge international flotations such as Avis Europe, the car hire firm that publishes its pathfinder prospectus on Friday, is that they involve an awful lot of brokers, ten syndicate members in this case, and all fall into that tender trap. Except one; a row has blown up over some independent research into the company by UBS, which takes a less rosy view. On profits,

UBS is aiming a good £10 million below the others for the financial year about to begin. Avis claims a mathematical error, a failure to include interest savings from the float; UBS stays silent and supports the float, but has not withdrawn the research. On prospects, UBS is worried about the proportion of profits

about the proportion of profits that come from the business of buying cars from manufacturers at a discount and then reselling them. In accounting terms, this is a difficult area, but the collapse in value of such residuals, as they are called, has done for a number of leasing companies. such as Atlantic Computing, while the booking of discounts from manufacturers is a little too close for comfort to last year's

This is not to say that Avis's accounting policies are anything but conservative, or that profits, excepting a rather unfortunate patch in 1994, have not shown good growth over the past 15 years. However, Avis does not help its case by refusing, for reasons of commercial confidentiality, it says, to talk about the terms on offer from the carmakers.

Profits from residuals could become an issue later - they certainly have for at least one of its rivals in that market. In which case, UBS can rightly say that it raised the matter first.

· Strong pound hits EMI success with Spice Girls

WORLDWIDE success for the Spice Girls could not prevent EMI, the music company, from suffering a dip in thirdquarter carnings as the soar-ing pound knocked £16 million off profits.

The all-girl group, who won two prizes at this week's Brit awards, were EMI's top act selling seven million copies of their debut album and five million singles worldwide.

Profits, excluding tax and exceptional items, for the nine months ended December 31. fell 6 per cent to £293 million. At constant exchange rates, profits declined 1 per cent to E310 million.

But shares in the company recovered slightly after recent losses - climbing 4 ap to close pany commented that the fourth quarter had started music store war in the US and

strongly.
Sir Colin Southgate, chairman, said that the company's release schedule was heavily weighted towards the final quarter, including new alburns from Blur and Mansun, which have both made number one in the UK charts, and

The company added that it expected to report full-year profits in the region of £380 million to £400 million and predicted it would suffer a £25

million currency hit. Overall turnover fell 4.6 per cent to £2.57 billion. Operating profits in the music division fell 8 per cent to £285 million. The company was particularly badly hit by the on-going sales remained weak in continental Europe. But EMI said that overall music growth remained robust, with a strong performance in emerging markets, and that it remained confident

in the health of the music market in the coming years. The third and final Beatles anthology sold 2.5 million units, taking total sales of the three-part anthology to 13 million copies. Other acts that sold more than a million units included The Artist Formerly

Known As Prince and Deana

Carter, the country singer. Sales at HMV, the music retailer, increased 14 per cent to £671 million, representing like for like growth of 5.2 per cent. But operating profits

increased just 2 per cent, to £22 million, because of start-up costs at HIMV Direct and HMV Germany. Dillons, the bookstore, increased sales 8 per cent. Profits from minority stakes fell 27 per cent, to £8.5 million, because of the impact of a weak yen on the contribution from Toshiba EMI.

EMI music publishing delivered strong results in North America, the UK, Brazil and Japan, with contributions from artists such as Tracy Chapman, Simply Red, Crowded House and Take

Finance charges fell 34 per cent, to £12.6 million, because of lower average net borrowings and disposals. The underlying tax rate declined slightly

'No penalty' over Tesco Clubcard

By SARAH CLINNINGHAM

TERRY LEAHY, the new chief executive of Tesco, in-sisted yesterday that the supermarkets group would not have to pay any compensa-tion or penalty to NatWest after Tesco's early termination of NatWest's contract to vice in America. run the Clubcard Plus debit

The Royal Bank of Scotland is to take over the running of the accounts. An enhanced Clubcard Plus will be relaunched in May or June and will be followed by a credit card and then other

financial services. Mr Leahy said that Tesco and NatWest are discussing the handover of Clubcard Plus, and the settling of outstanding payments for services provided by the

News Corp to use BT for ASkyB

By Eric Reguly

THE growing links between British Telecom and The News Corporation were underlined yesterday when it emerged that the phone company, through MCI, will help to distribute the new ASkyB digital satellite television ser-

BT last year agreed to buy MCI, the second largest longdistance carrier in the US, for £12 billion. The merger of the two companies should be completed by the autumn.

An MCI spokesman said:

We expect to market Sky to our base of 20 million customers. We will be able to offer a package that includes satellite IV, the internet and long-

distance services." ASkyB was formed on Monday when News Corp. parent company of The Times, agreed to buy 50 per cent of EchoStar, the direct-to-home satellite

broadcaster, in exchange for assets, worth US\$1 billion, in its American Sky Broadcast-ing subsidiary. MCl, which owns 20 per cent of News Corp, will effectively have 10 per cent of the new company. BSkyB, the satellite broad-

caster that is 40 per cent owned by News International, News Corp's British subsidiary, and BT are also forming an alliance. They will be shareholders in the Interactive Services Company, which is being formed to subsidise the price of the digital set-top boxes that are to be ordered by BSkyB. In exchange for its investment, BT will share in the income generated by the interactive services.

In Australia, News Corp shares rose about 5.5 per cent, to more than A\$7, after the announcement that it and EchoStar are to join forces.

Elliot gains support on Salvesen

BY PAUL DURMAN

SIR Gerald Elliot, the former chairman of Christian Salvesen, yesterday claimed he already had the support of 14 per cent of shareholders in his bid to block the distribution company's demerger.

In a letter to shareholders Sir Geraid urged Salvesen's owners to vote against the company's plans to pay a special dividend of £100 million and to demerge Aggreko. the fast-growing power rental business. He said the proposals to break up Salvesen were 'ill-judged and defeatist".

Sir Gerald, great grandson of Salvesen's founder, accused the company's management of mishandling last year's take-

over approach from Hays. He proposes to install John Grant, former finance director of LucasVarity, the car components group, as chief executive, to carry out a strategic review.



Capita wins £32m contracts to run council computers

By Fraser Nelson

CAPITA, the business support rvices group, has swept up three remaining local government contracts that were up for renewal in 1997. adding a further £32 million to its order book.

The company, Britain's largest independent council tax collector, has secured extensions to its contracts to run the county council computer systems for Kent and Wit-shire. It has also won an eightyear extension to collect and process taxes payable to Mendip District Council

The extensions were announced as the company returned record results for 1996. coming in ahead of the City's

expectations. Efficiencies drawn from pooling new administration contracts into its processing centres helped pre-tax profit to rise 31 per cent to £12.3 million, on sales 29 per cent

ahead at £112 million. Earnings were 14.3p a share (11.8p). The dividend is 4.8p (3.9p), with a final 3.2p payable on April 29. The results were helped by October's acquisition of Re-

cruitment & Assessment Services. (RAS), the former government agency that has exclusive control over new recruits to the Civil Service.

Rod Aldridge, thief execu-tive, said that RAS's fast track" entry process was winning orders from private husinesses looking for new staff. More than 20 per cent

of successful RAS candidates are being placed in businesses outside the Civil Service. While public sector contracts fell to two thirds of sales, Mr Aldridge said the company, which administers nursery school vouchers and the theory part of driving

Bureacracy is hitting central government more than local government, he said.

tests, was not retreating from

Shire pays £55m for **US** drug developer

BY PAUL DURMAN

SHIRE Pharmaceuticals looks set to lift its stock market value to almost £200 million by buying a US drug development company for an initial payment of up to £55.5 million. Shire, valued at £106.6 mil-

lion when it floated a year ago. is buying Pharmavene, which pulled out of a Nasday listing last year after the market turned against US biotechnology stocks. Shire may have to pay a further £49 million to Pharmavene's vendors over the next few years, depending on the success of various development projects.

Pharmavene specialises in drug delivery, developing improved versions of existing drugs. It is working on a treatment for viral infections that

will be more easily absorbed. Shire said that Pharmavene's approach was similar to its own, avoiding development risk and concentrating on commercialisation. The acquisition will give Shire a product pipeline of 30 projects. Shire is helping to fund the

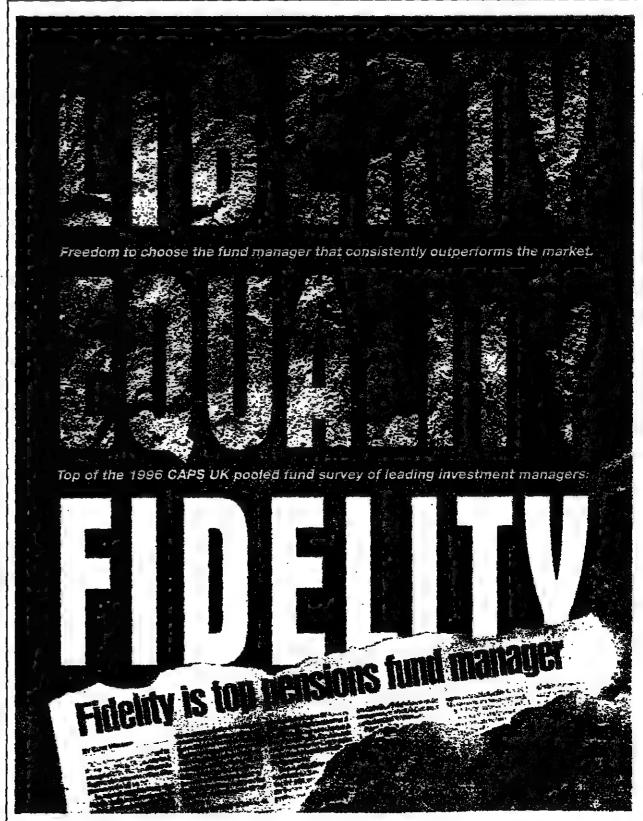
deal by raising EIL5 million with a one-for-ten placing and open offer of new shares at 214p. The existing shares slip-ped 34p, to 224p, yesterday. Shire will pay the vendors up to £15.3 million in cash. The remaining £40.2 million of initial consideration will be in shares.

Shire yesterday reported a £100,000 loss for the half year to December 31, on sales down from E12.1 million to £9.9 million. The slide from a £4.6 million profit last year was because of the absence of a payment received in connection with a treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

Sema profits grow 35%

SEMA, the Anglo-French (Fraser Nelson writes). One analyst said: "Sema is

of £87 million - and margins pretty much the same as the group's average, that is a very good deal." Sema's other acquisitions helped the company to lift pre-tax profits to £50 million, a rise of 35 per cent over the year.



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computer services group which last month bought the former British Rail ticket operating system for £27 million. picked up the business cheapy, according to analysts

sitting on a goldmine. It picked up the business for £27

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MAJOR CHANGES

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C&B Publishing

Centrica (75%)

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Hong Kong.

Amsterdam:

Sydney:

Zurich:

London:



MICHAEL CLARK

Wall Street record fails to ease investors' worries

tion for Wall Street's overnight record-breaking run but with several hurdles to cross today. few investors yesterday were ready to commit fresh funds to

There will be a collective sigh of relief if today's gilt auction involving £2.5 billion of longer-dated stock is comfortably subscribed. In addition, there will be further apprehension later in the day as Alan Greenspan. Chairman of the Federal Reserve. gives his testimony on the US economy to Congress. The City will be wanting to see the reaction of US Treasury bonds before planning its next move.

This, combined with political worries ahead of tomorrow's Wirrall South byelection, kept investors sidelined although the squaring-up of book positions and a stream of major trading statements boosted turnover to 821.6 million shares.

With the Dow Jones industrial average failing to consolidate its early gains, the FT-SE 100 index finished well down on the day. After touching 4,357.9, it closed 13.6 up at

Among leaders, BAT industries advanced 1312p to \$4612p. reflecting recent demand on the other side of the Atlantic for Philip Morris.

Yorkshire Electricity rose 10p to 8911 ap. That compares with the 927p a share being offered by Yorkshire Holdings, owned jointly by American Electric Power of Ohio and Public Services of Colorado. US power generators.

National Westminster Bank tumbled 36p to 77612p after full-year figures came in at the lower end of City expectations. Unlike the other banks that have already reported. NatWest reported a drop in pre-tax prolits after charges of £905 million relating to the disposal of Bancorp in the US and the cost of restructuring. Lord Alexander, chairman, was also quick to rule out the possibility of bid for Scottish which already has bids on the table from Abbey National. down 10p at 76912p, and Prudential Corporation, 312p firmer at 563p.

The rest of the bank sector spent a nervous day awaiting today's full-year numbers from Standard Chartered, down 12p at 770p. Brokers are forecasting pre-tax profits



Richard Saville, left, Joseph Dwyer, centre, and Dennis Brant, deputy chief executive, of George Wimpey, which slipped 112p

ranging from £855 million to £874 million compared with £661 million last time. The City will want to know what impact the death of Deng Xiaoping will have on future trading. Standard is one of the few banks licensed to trade in the Chinese currency.

Royal Bank of Scotland shed 9p at 61312p, and Bank of week the advertising agency, headed by Martin Sorrell. announced impressive profits. Marks & Spencer contin-

ued to make the most of a buy" recommendation from the retail team at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker. with a rise of 1414p at 503p. Kleinwort also likes Next, lop better at 60912p, and says there is scope for a 10 per cent

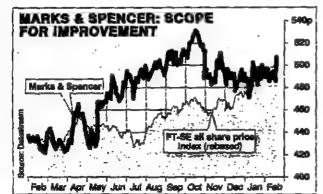
Revived speculative buying lifted United Biscuits 3p to a high for the year of 2411ap. Talk of a bid persists and there are even suggestions that a management buyout is being planned. A line of 3.05 million shares went through the market at the 238p level as total turnover reached 5.9 million shares.

Scotland Sp at 35812p, while there were gains for Barclays. 26p higher at £11.22, HSBC. up 1512p to £15.79, and Lloyds TSB, 8p better at 510p.

A badly handled buying order squeezed WPP Group 15p higher at 26812p. Two parcels of 500,000 shares went through at 252p and 253p. Another line of 500,000 shares went through at 263p. Last

improvement in the retail sector generally. That comment lifted Great Universal Stores 5p to 68lp. DFS 1012p to 590 ap, Dixons llp to 528 ap, MFI 8p to 192p, and Flying Flowers op to 252 ap. Emap, the troubled publish-

er, was again beating a retreat with a fall of 1212p at 773p after the loss of David Arcule He is joining the board of



firming 41zp to Ell.9712.

Saville, finance director, even went so far as to allay sharedebts and outline moves to

A profits warning left Necessard 80 down on the day at 3312p. The engineer said results for the year would fall short of market expectations with profits failing to match

Industries 1014p lower at 26p and Almasse 53½ p at 318p. Union, one of the few remaining discount houses, rose 812p to 95p after reporting

News of a bid approach boosted Mackie Internationai Group 20p to 180p. But it not exceed 160p.

581 ap in early trade on talk of a possible bid approach. Profittaking left the shares 412p down at 4712p by the close. Scottish Television re-

jump in pre-tax profits with a rise of 71 ap at 6371 ap.

GILT-EDGED: Prices traded in narrow limits for much of the session, with investors unwilling to commit

testimony to Congress. futures pit as investors rolled March future into June as the long gilt closed three ticks firmer at £113332. A total of

☐ NEW YORK: Profit-takers moved in after Monday's rally to send shares lower and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 19.63 points at 6,988.57.

Thorn fell 1312p to 18912p as the City began to have second thoughts about Monday's third-quarter setback for profits. But there was grudging approval to the other half of the recent demerger with EM1

George Wimpey, Britain's iggest housebuilder, slipped 1'2p to 140p after more than doubling its profits last year. The group, under Joseph Dwyer, chairman and chief executive, and Richard holders' fears about mounting build up the landbank.

Profit warnings also left Sep veral bid approaches.

warned the speculators that any offer for the company may Drew Scientific touched

themselves ahead of today's auction and Alan Greenspan's

Turnover was boosted in the over open positions in the

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £332 to end the day at E E 1045 32.

> . 561p (-6'::p) ... 316p (-6p) ... 134p (-6p) Closing Prices Page 30

Out of the cul-de-sac

Sema is merely catching up.

There are many reasons why

Sema should succeed where

the others are failing. As a

provider of computer ser-

vices, it is effectively selling

GEORGE WIMPEY was in abulliant mood yesterday. In the words of its chairman, last year's deal with Tarmac has enabled the housebuilder to escape from a cul-de-sac. By swapping its construction and quarrying divisions for McLean Flomes, Wimpey has been able to increase margins and double profits, and to make the most of a strongly recovering housing market. Even the balance sheet immed out better than the City expected.

Profits look set almost to double again this year to perhaps £60 million, helped by savings from the acquisition of McLean and the reorganisation into 38 local companies. Wimpey expects to cut its borrowings further by selling off £110 million of unwanted properties and other assets.

This will help finance land-buying but some worries remain. Wimpey insists that

concerns over its short landbank are overdone Wimpey Homes was able to increase the size of its land bank by 1100 plots and McLean reduction was blamed on Tarmac suspending investment.

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Land Control

All the same, land pressures mean McLean will build less than the desired 6,000 homes this year. It also remains to be seen whether Wimpey is right to be confident about clearing planning hurdles. The group is exposed to land price inflation of 5-10 per cent.

The other worry is the election. Wimpey's belief is that there will only be a brief hiatus for a week or two either side of polling day. With margins still low, Wimpey should benefit substantially from rising house prices. The shares have recently bounced and may move sideways ahead of the election. Longer term prospects look good.

contracts. With an order

book 66 per cent ahead, it

does not need miracles to

keep up the growth. Its added attraction is its pres-

ence on the edge of markets

Sema

INVESTORS in Sema could be forgiven for feeling a touch of vertigo after seeing the share price chart. The company is undeniably one of the fastest growing in its sector. But on a valuation of 230 per cent relative to its peers in the market, its share price would appear to have apped this up fully.

At 51 times earnings, it would appear that Sema has little room for mistakes companies on this ratio are normally expected to produce the unexpected. Sema's results showed tremendous growth but they took nobody by surprise.

If the company is judged on enterprise value (a measine of market value, debt and sales favoured by some brokers) it comes out at a discount to the likes of EDS and Logica. This suggests

in Hong Kong, Germany and the US. If it breaks into bodies. There are fewer and fewer trained bodies around, any one of these, the potenputting a high price on those tial is huge. The shares have who are there. had a good run, but they are Unlike competitors, Sema worth holding. is winning bodies as it wins INFORMATION OVERLOAD?

1100 900

EMI

THE EMI share price has bounced about in recent months like a record entering the volatile British singles charts. The music company's long-awaited debut as an independent, after last year's demerger from Thorn, resulted in the share price hitting a high of more than £14 before concerns over the impact of currency and sales in the US prompted EMI to fall closes to Eli.

There was some relief ves terday after the company said that the strength of its final-guarter- release list should compensate for the quarter. EMI remains positive about the long-term prossure to booming emerging markets. The retail-based problems in the US should ease over the course of the

next year.

The soaring pound will continue to hurt profits in the

first half of next year, but the company will continue to show underlying growth. Bid speculation has abated in recent weeks, but EMI, which is the only pure music stock, is always likely to remain the number one target in the sector. The company currently sits on a price/earnings ratio for 1998 of around 20 times. Not chesp, but the company should be more than a one-hit wonder.

Scottish TV

THE numbers are all pointing in the right direction at Scottish Television. Profits, driven by strong growth in programme production and Caledonian Publishing, set a record in 1996. Scottish TV's share of ITV advertising revenue has begun to climb and looks set to break the 5 per cent barrier. The recent slump in the shares, trig-gered in part by the arrival of digital terrestrial television. means that they are trading at a more reasonable earnings multiple.
Two factors could spoil

Scottish TV's winning streak. The introduction of a fair levy system of the kind proposed by Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television could, and probably will, cost it millions of pounds a year. Scottish TV regained its franchise in 1992 for £1,000 a year.

The more immediate threat is an unstable shareholder base. Flextech, the cable and satellite TV programmer, and Mirror Group, each own 20 per cent. Flextech faces a £150 million bill to develop BBCbranded subscription channeis and probably will sell the Scottish TV stake to help to Mirror Group would follow

suit is anyone's guess.

Scottisti TV shareholders would, of course, be helped by a takeover battle like the one in the West Country last unless both Flextech and Mirror Group agree to auc-

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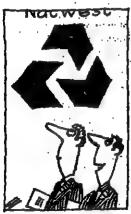
Breakfast iffiness

MINISTERS are splashing out on business breakfasts. In answer to a parliamentary question yesterday, Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said that ministers have spent £78,000 on power breakfasts.

The Prime Minister can look forward to a letter from Barbara Roche, the Shadow Small Business Minister, asking him to justify spending taxpayers' money for ministers to breakfast in marginal seats, "Small firms are the target of these visits, she said. "The ones 1 meet want rather more from this Government in the run up to the general election than coffee and croissants and ministers who are has-beens."

Wrong-footed

IN Singapore for the open-ing of the latest branch of Harry Ramsden's fish and chip shop, John Barnes. the chairman, was mightily impressed with the VIP treatment. Ushered into his hotel, Barnes was whisked up to the penthouse suite, where chocolates and flowers were in abundance. Then he spot-ted a letter from the hotel football team asking if he would pose alongside them for a celebrity photo-graph. "I turned up in the foyer at the agreed time and their faces fell," he says, adding that he looks more like an ageing Ryan Giggs than the Jamaicanborn captain of Liverpool.



"I think it means proceed with caution"

Eton connection SIR Denis Mahon goes on

public display today. The great-nephew of one of the original founders of the merchant bank Guinness Mahon, whose collection of Italian Baroque paintings is currently on loan to the Sainsbury wing of the National Gallery, offers us a brief insight into the art collector's personal life. The ten sketches by Luca Giordano that hang in the the exhibition were hought from Lord Shrewsbury to help him to purchase his carriage for the coronation of The Queen in 1953. Sir Denis's good relations with Lord Slirewsbury predate this gesture -Lord Shrewsbury was Sir Denis's fag at Eton.

JOHN GIBSON, the Glasgow-based regional manager of the Stock Exshange, mysteriously took leave of his job last Friday. Sally Everett, formerat the SE, replaces him from next week. The SE refuses to comment on the departure of her predeces-sor, referring to it as a "personnel matter".

Dodgy presence

PROTESTS at the success of the Spice Girls at this week's Brit Awards reached the motor industry when Dodgy, the popular singing combo, apparently boycotted the event in fayour of the What Car? Awards. The group is said to have taken a table for the venue in the Great Room at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London's Mayfair. but dinner guests - seemingly a generation more likely to recognise the Monkees - were apparently unaware of one of the nation's up-and-coming

SUDERPROUPS.

Banking on revolution to banish climate of decay

ermanent revolution is not a policy that the World Bank would recommend for its clients in the developing world. Yet last week, James Wolfensohn, the Bank's president, announced that the development organisation would impose on itself its fourth radical restructuring in ten years in a new bid to halt years of listless decline.

Like three previous attempts at reform by Mr Wolfensohn's predecessors, the plan is expensive; it will cost up to \$250 million, cut up to 700 jobs and push up operating costs for two years. Like its precursors, it is billed as decisive, the silver bullet that finally dispatch criticism that the Bank has become rigid,

ineffective and prone to ill-considered lending fads. For Mr Wolfensohn, openly frustrated with the slow pace of change since his appointment two years ago, his reputation depends on the success of these reforms. For the Bank, its survival into the next century is at stake, as it struggles to convince rich donor countries that it still has a role.

When the World Bank was founded in 1945, its mission was to combat poverty and promote economic development. From the start its lending philosophy and economic recommendations had a distinctly American cast, which John Maynard Keynes foresaw when he lobbied unsuccessfully to have it based outside Washington. That tone remains; Joseph Stiglitz, its new chief economist, bluntly said that Europe as well as developing countries should learn from the US model of government.

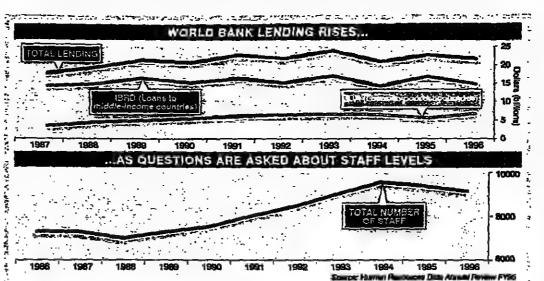
In the wake of the Second World War, Western European countries were its first clients. Five decades later, roads built with Bank funds criss-cross the developing world and dams churn out electricity from its rivers. The Bank also claims a role in the dramatic reduction in worldwide infant mortality and the

extension of life expectancy.

However, criticisms of the Bank's record have grown steadily. Last year just 70 per cent of completed projects were judged successful, an improvement on five years ago but a decline from the early level of 80 per cent. Despite repeated assaults on its tiers of bureaucracy, staff numbers have also risen to more than 9,000.

But the Bank's most painful disappointment is the

failure of many of its plans for sub-Saharan Africa. Professor Stiglitz observes that in the 1960s and 1970s. the Bank let African governments assume a central role in spending development funds which, given their lack of experience, was unrealistic. More recently, the Bank has also been attacked for taking too little regard of the local consequences of its projects, and for neglecting environmental concerns until the Green Movement gained political clout in the 1980s. Mark Malloch Brown, Bank spokesman, acknowledges The World Bank is hoping to improve its poor image with yet more radical internal surgery. Bronwen Maddox reports



plant is a main plank of Siemens's strategy for the UK.

The group is now a leading UK electronics company with

a turnover of £1.5 billion last

year. Plans aiready exist to develop another plant next to

What is holding back Sie-

mens so far is the dismal state of the global semiconductor

market. It has annual sales worldwide of \$200 billion.

Siemens, headed by Jürgen

Gehrels and which employs

19.000 people around the

globe, currently sells \$3 billion

of semiconductors a year, but

hopes to treble this in the next

Considerable fluctuations,

however, present players in

the world chip market with

quite a challenge. Prices for some of Siemens's chips re-

cently fell from DM20 to

DM4. But Heinrich Hamann,

a senior director, is confident

that this will be corrected. He said: "Demand from suppliers

is balancing out now. Volume

is coming back. We hope that

the price erosion will be

Simple, said Herr Hamann.

Wages are low compared with

Germany and people are so

desperate for work that they

are happy to receive the exten-

sive training that they need to

work in a semiconductor plant. Graduates start on

£15,000 and engineers in non-

up to £45,000. Salaries include

built over the past year, the

new employees were sent to Siemens sites in Germany and

Austria to learn and

familiarise themselves with

new techniques.

Lew Aviss, the personnel director, has something of a

Germanic disciplinarian

streak, despite appearing to be

Workers will not be allowed to

wear make-up, smoke or work

flexi-time. They have to work

12-hour shifts on four out of

every eight days. He said: "We

want to discipline our people.

Cleanliness is so important."

Mr Aviss added: "We work

to help overcome the problem

that the North East has the

highest unemployment levels

in England." He doesn't men-

tion that the British Govern-

ment is shelling out sweeten-

ers worth about £200 million

to make such work a lucrative

pursuit for the company. An

advertising hoarding at Ha-

drian Business Park, where

the factory is situated, shouts

"goldmine for sale". With a

little luck, Siemens goldmine

will benefit everyone involved.

40 per cent shift premium. While the UK plant was being

ut why did Siemens decide to set up a venture that is so

dependent on highly skilled staff in the North East?

stopped as well."

the newly operational one.

these charges, but says: "We were a little bit smarter and a little bit less wrong than others in development."
David Dollar, a senior researcher, adds that "the influence of the World Bank on countries' policies is greatly exaggerated. Our big sins in Africa were providing financial assistance to countries with bad policies.— but the Bank didn't cause the bad policies.— However, the Bank is running out of time. It is now competing with private banks, which have become more confident in lending to developing countries and care chimping off the best projects. Last user minutes. are skimming off the best projects. Last year, private capital injections to developing countries reached \$230 billion, a sixfold increase since 1990, dwarfing the Bank's annual commitments of about \$22 billion.

At the same time, governments of industrialised countries have pared back their donations to development; in total, official aid fell by 9 per cent last year, to about \$50 billion, the lowest in real terms for 23 years. For two thirds of the Bank's annual lending - the IBRD programmes for the better-off developing countries - these constraints do not yet matter. The IBRD has financed itself since the late 1980s with the interest and repayments from its own loans. However,

the Bank's IDA programme to the poorest countries the remaining one third, needs annual injections.

The challenges facing the Bank are encapsulated in the strained relationship with the US. Its contributions to IDA, nominally one fifth of the total, have been

stalled by Congress, which is sceptical of the Bank's effectiveness and infuriated by its rising costs. Mr Wolfensohn says he is confident that President Clinton's commitment to make good the US's promises to IDA will survive Congress. But others in the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, a congressional body with influence on the outcome, say they may wait for evidence of real reform.

Mr Wolfensohn, 63, a forceful, charming, Australian-born financier, and now a naturalised American.

was well aware of those challenges when he took the job. He overestimated the rate at which the Bank's 9,000 staff, 90 per cent based in Washington, would be prepared to change. In March 1996, he complained despairingly of a "glass wall" blocking his efforts: "How can we change the atmosphere? How can we move from cynicism, distrust and distance to risk

According to Mr Wolfensohn, frustration has been replaced with confidence. "Most of the real change has come in the last six months — I now have the support of management and staff." When asked why his reforms will succeed where others failed, he says: "I was not in charge of the others." He adds that his plan "is the way

you would run the Bank if it was your own business" The core of his scheme is decentralisation, designed to make the Bank more accountable to borrowing countries. He also wants to move the Bank away from its traditional locus on infrastructure towards the business of giving advice to governments. His plan aims to trim expenses and reinvest the savings in the frontline" - improving education and health, and promoting banking and legal reform to encourage private capital. It will push up costs initially but is designed to make a sharp dent by 2000.

Despite Mr Wolfensohn's claims of support, the plan, which goes to the Bank's board on March 13, processing approximation of the plan.

remains controversial. It will mean peeling some bureaucrats away from their comfortable Washington lives and sending them into the field. Even Bank staff not directly affected also argue that he may be shedding valuable experience—at a cost of \$350,000 in redundancy payments for each job.

It is also clear that the plan leaves questions unresolved. The Bank is still vulnerable to the charge that its lending is buffered by fashion; privatisation appears a good candidate for the latest enthusiasm. Bank regional specialists deny that they are "privatisation idealogues", and Robert Hindle, a former member of the Bank's East Africa privatisation team, says readily that transferring ownership of industry to the private sector fails to help the economy where a government is not prepared to encourage competition, as in Kenya. But the Bank's current support for privatisation in countries lacking much competition or

regulation leaves it open to future criticism.

Nor, if the Wolfensohn plans take effect, will the Bank find it easier to demonstrate success to its financial backers. It can always point to a hydroelectric dam but claims of having averted a banking crisis will be harder to establish. As it leaves more of the safer, lucrative projects to private banks, its return on its investment will also inevitably fall.

Yet it is clear that the plan offers the Bank an

important chance to demonstrate that it can cut costs. and that it does not adopt a "one size fits all" approach to development. It will not remove donor countries' new scepticism; it may not even protect the current level of donations. But it should help to answer the charge that an institution that prescribes economic recipes for the rest of the world cannot put its own house in order.

Chips with everything offer sweet sensation to German investors

ocally it is known as "the billion pound chip factory". To the rest of British industry, it is the biggest completed inward investment project in Britain. Siemens, the German electronics group, has built

Europe's most modern semiconductor factory on Tyneside. The first test run has now begun and chips will soon be exported around the globe. This marks the start of productions at the £1.1 billion plant," the company said vesterday.

Only ten years ago such an event would have been unthinkable. The Tyneside site is a living monument to the scale of change that British industry factory overlooks the ailing Swan Hunter shipyard, formerly one of the biggest employers in the region. Today, Siemens styles itself as the "number one employer in the neighbourhood". A total of 1,100 people will eventually work in the factory - 550 have already been hired.

The new jobs and the prospect of becoming the silicon valley of Europe have rejuve-nated the area. The decision to base the plant

on Tyneside was taken in August 1995. The cornerstones were laid a few months later, equipment was in place last November and mass production will start this summer ~ only two years after the project was begun.

Helmut Brunner, the German executive director, said: We are on schedule and we met all our targets." He is one of the 50 German managers who supervised the swift construction of the plant. By the end of this year, however, control over the 100-acre site will pass into local hands.

The type of microchip produced is called a wafer. It looks like a slice of salami, but is in reality a micro-thin sliver of silicon, which is made in 370 separate stages. This week the entire process was for the first time operated simultaneously, and the first salami slices are

now ready to be served. initially the weekly output will be limited to 1,700 wafers, to be increased to 6,000 at a later date when the production run has been fine-tuned. The so-called "raw process" - the minimum time it takes to make a wafer from start to finish - is 17 days, It is, however, more efficient to stretch the process to 35 to 40 days.

Herr Brunner claimed that production times would be one of the fastest in the industry. Speed seems to be his main focus, rather than the stereotypically German qualities of efficiency and order.

the speed with which the plant

The local population has certainly been impressed with chines are enclosed in their

Oliver August watches the test run at Siemens's new Tyneside factory



Jürgen Gehrels was enticed by Britain's low wage levels

was put up. A cabbie dropping visitors off at the factory gate said: "It's faster than Germany because they've got Newcastle Brown Ale to keep them going."
The factory is a steel con-

struction which contains not a single ounce of concrete. At its heart is a 4,000 sq ft "clean room". Here the wafers are put together in a totally dustfree environment. The space suits worn by

staff may soon be discarded. A new system called SMIF (Standard Mechanical Interface) will allow employees to work in shell suits instead. SMIF involves glass briefcases in which walers can be transported dust-free from one machine to the next. All ma-

own miniature clean rooms and only when the wafers are inside are they taken out of their cases. The machine oper-ators can eat their lunch while working. The benefits are obvious, but the technology is almost unknown in Britain.

The clean room gives the impression that it was designed by overzealous housewives. To enter, one has to put a small plastic bag on each foot. A second set of bags has to be worn in the visitors' gallery overlooking the room, despite the thick glass separating it from dirty intruders. All employees inside the room are dressed in colour-coded space suits to minimise the amount of dust and to be easily identified.

The opening of the Tyneside

Restoration of Binns stores would need like minds

From Mr F. T. Pattinson Sir, I can sympathise with what Mr B. J. H. Mathinson has to say (Business letters, February II) about the pre-war Binus stores.

I started an apprenticeship with Binns on September 1, 1939 having given up a legal career with a practice in

Darlington) so to do. In April 1942 I joined the RAFVR, which interrupted, until 1946, my apprenticeship with Binns, After a short stay

with Binns I went to college in London.

During my short post-war stay with Binns rumours were abounding that the House of Fraser wanted to take over the Binns Group. Such a takeover would give the House of Fraser its largest stake in

England. The House of Fraser, under the chairmanship of Hugh Fraser, later to become Lord Fraser, eventually, after a long the Binns Group. Binns soon began to alter after the House

of Fraser had bought it. If Mr Mattinson has ideas of restoring what is left of the original Binns Group to its past eminence I would suggest that he should make overtures to the John Lewis Partnership, or another like-minded

business Yours faithfully. F. T. PATTINSON. 532 Barandon Walk. London, Will.

Cascade cause and effect of taxation

From Mr M. R. Sharman Sir, One of the long-term aims of this Government is said to be the abolition of inheritance tax (IHTI) and capital gains tax (CGT), in order to allow wealth to "cascade down the

generations". Abolition of IHT would obviously increase the amount of wealth which would reach the next generation, but the

absence of IHT, there would be no tax incentive to make lifetime gifts, and many potential donors might prefer to retain their assets until death. At present, one of the most powerful incentives to make timely lifetime gifts is the

and bitter struggle, took over

seven-year IHT risk.
Often the biggest obstacle to lifetime gifts is CGT. Total abolition of CGT is probably not the answer, as this would be likely to revive the tax avoidance industry's in-

question is when? In the terest in schemes for converting taxable income into taxfree gains.

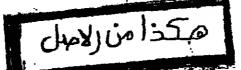
Retention of the present IHT rules, combined with abolition or deferral of CGT on gifts, would be more likely to encourage early lifetime gifts, and thus promote the cascade effect.

Yours faithfully. M. R. SHARMAN

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Equities higher, gilts unmoved TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. 5 AFF milk
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Trocadero pair may float their **Enid Blyton** business

By Jason Nisse

NIGEL WRAY and Nick Les-Burford and Trocadero, are considering floating the Enid Blyton company, owner of the rights to the late author's books for children, with a market value of more than

This compares with the £14.7 million that Trocadero paid for the business last year. Trocadero has since renegotiated publishing rights to the books with Reed, taking back merchandising of Noddy from the BBC, and it is near to securing a deal to make a version of Noddy for US television.

The business made profits of £650,000 last year, and Trocadero believes that this can be more than tripled within a couple of years.

If the business floats, it will

be the fourth public company in which Mr Wray and Mr Leslau are involved. There will be a fifth if they float Nottingham Forest, the football club in which they are investors. Trocadero, quoted on the AIM, is to join the main market at the end of this year, and the group is looking for a chief executive to replace Mr Leslau, and a finance director, to take over from Julian

Gleek, who is also at Burford. Trocadero's first results as a separate company were disappointing, with pre-tax profits down a third to £1.23 million and earnings per share down

from 0.58p to 0.16p. Mr Leslau admitted that the main problem was with Segaworld, the interactive theme park run by Sega at the Trocadero, the London leisure complex, which had a poor launch. If Sega does not achieve £6 million of annual turnover by September 1999, Trocadero has a right to evict the Japanese giant. It is thought that only L1 million people will visit Segaworld this year, against previous targets as high as two million. Spending per person is £8.50, against projections of £15.

Trocadero is bringing in new tenants, including The Giant Drop — a 125st free-fall ride — and a 3-D max screen.



Nick Leslau, left, and Nigel Wray may float their Enid Blyton business and aim to help Noddy on to television in the US | the future."

BT in talks on deal for Asia-Pacific

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

BRITISH TELECOM is in talks with Telstra, Australia's biggest phone company, about forming an alliance to tackle the Asia-Pacific market, it emerged yesterday.

The revelation came after reports in Australia that the two companies had been discussing a possible alliance, code-named Project Hutton, over the past few months. Peter Abery, Telstra's direc

tor of strategic planning and development. Said: "I can confirm that we have had and expect to have a range of discussions with British Telecom, as well as other major players in our industry, with a view to forming an alliance. We have had a relationship with BT for many years and there has

been contact at a senior level." A BT spokesman in Sydney yesterday refused to comment on reports of an alliance with Telstra, but said its global strategy was one of joint ventures. He added: "Asia Pacific is now a major focus for BT and as such we are talking to all the major players in the region, including Telstra, to see how we might work together more closely in

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Ricardo hit by costs of shake-up in US

yesterday reported pre-tax losses of £13.7 million for the halfyear to December 30, reflecting the high cost of the restructuring of its troubled operations in America. Losses included exceptional charges of £16.3 million from the disposal of the non-automotive businesses, comprising a £2.6 million charge to cover costs and the discount of the sale against assets and a £13.7 million goodwill adjustment. Profits in the first half of the previous year were £2.4 million.

The company said pre-exceptional profits were little changed at £2.5 million (£2.4 million) on turnover that rose 13 per cent to E52.1 million. Normalised earnings were 3.0p a share (3.4p) and the dividend was held at 2p. The shares were unchanged at 13312p yesterday, Rodney Westhead, who became chief executive in November upon the dismissal of Christopher Ross, said the company would now focus on its automotive engineering consultancy business.

Ford boost for Swansea

FORD plans to invest £25 million at its plant in Swansea, South Wales, safeguarding 1,100 jobs, the company announced yesterday. The funding will enable the plant to increase its existing output of wheel hubs and drums and to expand into producing brake discs. The plant exports components to Europe and North America, Last year 450,000 individual components were made at the factory, including axles and transmission arms. Its products can be found in most Ford marques from the Ka

Cobham subsidiary deal

SARGENT FLETCHER (SFI), the US subsidiary of Cobham, the UK aerospace engineering company, has completed the \$4 million purchase of the aircraft external metal fuel tank business of Derlan Industries. SFI has acquired the right and title to substantially all of the assets, inventory, order book, intellectual property and manufacturing rights. The product line will be moved to SFI's El Monte site in southern California and will help to consolidate SFI's position in the North American and worldwide markets.

Jermyn assets rise

JERMYN INVESTMENT PROPERTIES reported a 23 per cent rise in net asset value to 223.3p a share, fully diluted, in 1996. Consolidated investment assets rose to £53.31 million from £29.73 million, helped by acquisitions.

At the pre-tax level profits rose to £1.32 million from £1.07 million and earnings improved to 5.8p a share from 5.49p. A final dividend of 3.1p a share lifts the total to 5.5p, from 4.5p in the previous year. Shares in Jermyn Investment Properties rose 4p to 167½ p.

Alumasc disappoints

SHARES of Alumase fell 532p to 318p yesterday after the engineering and construction products company reported pre-tax profits little changed at £6.53 million (£6.7 million) for the half year to December 30. Analysts had expected a small increase. The interim dividend is held at 2.45p a share, payable from earnings that fell to 10.75p a share from 12p. John McCall, chairman and chief executive, said a number of businesses suffered a weak performance that would continue to affect results in the second half.

Regent Inns placing

yesterday. The company also announced that it has entered negotiations to sell its snooker division.

looked forward to the important spring garden season with 2212 p, a 12-month high.

GRE's £1bn war chest raises fears of a costly bid battle

By Gavin Lumsden

SHARES in Guardian Royal Ill per cent. He also said that Exchange, the insurance GRE's net asset value, includgroup, slipped 4½p to 283½p yesterday after John Robins. ing life-embedded value, was 62.5 billion, giving an NAV per share of 281p, higher than group chief executive, announced a £1 billion war chest to fund acquisitions at home In addition, he revealed for

the first time that the share-This raised fears that it holder stake in the life busicould get embroiled in an expensive bidding contest with the likes of GE Capital and the ness was worth £302 million, equal to 33p per share in asset terms, However, Mr Robins Prudential if Axa Equity & Law goes up for sale, Mr Robins surprised the blamed restructuring costs and a dramatic rise in weather-related claims for a £59 million fall in trading profits. Trading profits had fallen from £340 million in 1995 to

£281 million last year, he said, although the group had kept premium income from worldwide general insurance broadlevel at £2.9 billion.

Mr Robins said the decline in profits included the £39 million cost of merging RAC Insurance Services and the commercial insurance business of Legal & General, which it acquired last year. Guardian Insurance is shedding 350 jobs and closing 12 offices. Weather-related and subsidence claims pushed underwriting losses in the UK up £12 million, to £32 million.

However, Mr Robins expected Guardian Direct, the telephone-based insurance arm launched in 1994, to break even this year. In-force policies doubled to 275,000 and Guardian had underwritten a further 233,000 policies since acquiring RACIS. The company had expanded into Northern Ireland last year and would open in South Africa next month, he added. Guardian Health increased premium income 69 per cent

new business from corporate pensions and protection. Exceptionally severe wea-ther also doubled losses in North America to £26 million, although the group has completed capital restructuring of the GRE insurance Group

made a profit of £31 million.

on top of a 22 per cent rise in

and built a new motor insur-ance centre in Indianapolis. The group raised £140 mil-lion through the sales of Guardian Re, its Swiss reinsurance company, its Trade Indemnity and now has a 4 per cent share among specialist intermediar-ies. The group's life business stake and Aquis property dev-

REGENT INNS is raising £13.6 million via a share placing London. The company has exchanged contracts on 21 sites. subject to licensing and planning permission, and has another 20 sites in the hands of solicitors. New shares are being placed with institutional investors by Kleinwort Benson at 325p each. Existing shares fell 4p to 3342p

William Sinclair grows

WILLIAM SINCLAIR HOLDINGS, the supplier of products to the garden, leisure and pet markets, said it confidence after lifting pre-tax profits to £2.24 million in the six months to December 30 from £1.76 million previously. Earnings were 6.9p a share, compared with 5.4p last time. and the interim dividend is increased to 2.1p a share from 1.9p. Shares in William Sinclair Holdings, rose 15p to

Mersey Docks dispute costs group £800,000

and abroad,

By Sarah Cunningham

THE prolonged Liverpool docks dispute cost the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company \$800,000 in operating profit last year, it was

revealed yesterday.

The dispute, which began in September 1995, involves 329 dockers dismissed for refusing to cross a picket line. The group repeated yesterday that its offer of £28,000 per man, on condition that each one of them be given the chance to respond via a secret ballot, is final. The offer

In the year to December 30 pre-tax and Medway during 1997.

profits were down 6.3 per cent to £29.7 million. Operating profit rose from £37.6 million to £43.8 million, but the trading losses and closure costs of the cross-Channel Eurolink totalled £9.1 million. The service was closed on

Earnings per share were 22.77p (24.48p). The proposed final dividend of 8.75p (7.85p), payable on May 8, gives a full-year dividend of 12.75p

The group plans to spend £48 million on new facilities at Liverpool

confidence

CONSUMERS in America remain sanguine about the prospects for the US economy and business opportunities, the Conference Board reported yesterday.

While the board's confidence index dipped slightly in February, falling to 118.4 from 118.7 in January, the New York research group said its latest survey showed that consumers were "clearly upbeat" about current iness activity.

The survey is based on a representative sample of 5.000 households.

US economy | Heron to build chain of European leisure parks

By Sarah Cunningham

HERON, the unlisted property company run by Gerald Ronson, is expanding into the European leisure market with a £135 million develop-

ment of five sites in Spain and France. The group recently announced that it was investing £300 million on property in the UK and Spain and on a land development scheme in Wales. It now intends to develop leisure and retail parks in Madrid, on two sites in Paris and a further two in the north of France. The Madrid project will be located close to the city's main ring road and cover 250,00 sq ft. It will

include a multiplex cinema and a factory outlet, and should create about 1,000 jobs. Heron said. The French developments will each be about 200,000 so ft. Heron said it is in advanced discussion with leading leisure groups and cinema operators about prospective tenancies.

Gerald Ronson, the chief executive of Heron, said: "We intend to build up the Heron International leisure division as a series of branded parks across Europe." Further projects in France. Spain and other European countries

Court of Appeal

Court of Appeal

Law Report February 26 1997

Returned writ was properly served

Nottingham Building Society v Peter Bennett & Co (a Firm) Before Lord Justice Waite and Mr

Justice Singer **Judgment February 14**] Once the intended recipient of a writ, having knowledge of its nature, had been given a sufficient. opportunity of possession of the writ to enable him to exercise dominion over it for any period of time, however brief, the writ had been left with him for the purpose of effecting good personal service order Order 65, rule 2 of the Rules

of the Supreme Court. Thus, where a process server put a writ into the hands of a former partner of a solicitors' firm in dissolution and the partner knew that it was a writ and read the description of the parties, good service had been effected upon him, even though the partner stated that he was not accepting service and handed it back to the process server who took it away with him to obtain further

instructions.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Notingham Building Society, against the defendants, Peter Bennett & Co. against the order of Sir

The judge had dismissed the plaintiffs appeal from District Judge Oliver's order of December 1, 1995, declaring that their writ had not been duly served on the defendants in accordance with Order 65, rule 2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court and Order 81, rule 3(3) and that the defect in service ld not be cured or waived under Order 2, rale L

Order 65, rule 2 provides: "Personal service of a document is effected by leaving a copy of the document with the person to be

Rule 81, rule 3 provides: "[3] Where a partnership has, to the knowledge of the plaintiff, been dissolved before an action against the firm is begun, the writ ... must be served on every person within the jurisdiction sought to be made imble in the action." Miss Linden He for the plain-

LORD JUSTICE WAITE said that the plaintiffs claimed damages for professional negligence against the defendants, a solicitors'

Janet Knightley against an order made in Willesden County Court

by Judge Maher on March 21, 1996

granting Brent London Borough Council a warrant for possession

of a council flat against the first defendant, her late mother Flor-

ence Knightley and refusing to join

the second defendant in the action.

LORD JUSTICE ALDOUS re-

ferred to Burrows v Brent London

tiffs; Mr Julian Picton for the

Peter Webster string as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division on January 18, 1996.

and after accrual of the cause of action. The defence of the action was undertaken by the Solicitors' was undertaken by the Solicitors' indemnity Fund who had agreed that the plaintiffs need serve only one of the defendants' former partners who was now a partner in most Metcalie, which had taken over the defendants' practice.

Two or three days before the writ was due to expire a process server instructed by the plaintiffs' solic-itors attended at Bennett Metwho had been a former partner of The process server carried with

acknowledgment of service, and a covering letter which indicated that service was intended to be What followed when the process

server entered the partner's office was described in the partner's affidavit. "(the process server) said that he

had come to serve a writ . . . he had the writ in his hand and I could see the defendants' name as Peter Bennett & Co (a Firm). I said that I was not there and then accepting writ. He handed it to me when I noticed in the body of the writ to

he inherited.

Brest London Borough Council v Knightley and

The daughter of a former secure tenant who died while the property was subject to a possession order suspended on conditions which had been breached had no interest in the property which would enable her to resist a warrant for

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous

Daughter has no title to flat held on February 4 dismissing an 1448). The right to appeal from a appeal by the second defendant, suspended possession order was

> To be a tolerated trespasser in the terms referred to by Lord Browne-Wilkinson in Burrows (at pl455C) one had to be a trespasser tolerated by law. There was no Knightley's position to revive a tenancy where no tenancy existed when her mother died.

not an interest in land which could

clearly a nonsense. I said again to him that I could not accept service and I suggested that he take the writ away and that he should contact the solicitors instructing him and ask them to telephone me. He agreed and did not suggest that he had served me. With that he left taking the writ and accompanying letter (which I had not read) and

The indemnity fund's agreement as to service waived the require-ment in Order 81, rule 3(3) to serve all the defendants' former part-ners. Nothing else was said to waive ordinary service and as the writ had only two or three days to run the only feasible service was

rsonal service. The issue was whether the equirements of Order 65, rule 2 had been satisfied. The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English (9th edition 1995) gave as the primary meaning

of the transitive verb "to leave": "cause to or let remain: depart without taking...' There appeared to be a dif-ference between those two muances of meaning. One described a mere letting remain, the other an ele-

The term "leaving" in Order 65, rule 2, was to be regarded in the

former sense. Once the intended recipient, ruming him to have knowledge of its nature, had been given a sufficient opportunity of possession of the document to one him to exercise dominion over it for any period of time, however brief, the document had been left with him within the sense intended

by the rule. Mr Justice Singer agreed. Solicitors: Eversheds, Nottingham; Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave, Bristol.

'Prior notice' means in advance Balabridge v Circuit Foll UK

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Judgment February (4)

A clause allowing termination "without prior notice" in the rules of a company sick pay scheme meant without advance notice. The words did not mean that the employer could terminate the scheme without informing the employees at all.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Barry Bainbridge, against the dismissal by Judge Brown in Carlisle County Court on April 30, 1996 of his claim for damages for breach of contract resulting from the refusal of the defendant, his former employer, Circuit Foil UK Ltd, to pay disability payments to which he was entitled under a sick

plaintiff; Mr Michael Smith for the ormer employer.

LORD JUSTICE ALDOUS said the plaintiff had begun work for the defendants at the end of 1978 or the beginning of 1979. His contract stated: "You are covered by the company's sick pay schemes, de-tails of which are set out in the

> There were two schemes, one covering absence for less than six months, and the second, the longterm scheme, covering the period

The plaintiff had developed dermatitis from exposure to glue at in November 1985 and was unable to return. For the first six months he was paid in line with the short-term scheme, thereafter under the long-term scheme. Payments ceased when he was made redundant in March 1993.

The plaintiff claimed that the failure to pay was a breach of

that the long-term scheme had ended in March 1982, when the employers ceased to pay premiums to the insurers. The employers had not informed

union representatives of the non-

payment until November 1985 and the plaintiff was not informed until he was made redundant. Under the rules of the scheme the employer reserved the right to terminate or amend it without

The judge had held that the scheme had been terminated long before he became ill and that the benefit he was in fact paid between 1985 and 1993 could not have been because of any contractual entitle-ment. He had interpreted the words "without prior notice" to mean that no notice of termination

In his Lordship's judgment the words "without prior notice" should be read as meaning with-

out notice in advance. The words did not suggest that notice did not have to be given to effect termination of rights under the contract of employment.

The plaintiff was covered by sick-pay schemes until he was notified to the contrary. The terhim on warning that the scheme

But his rights under his contract of employment continued until notice was given that his contract had been varied. The employer's obligation to provide sick benefit did not end when it ceased to pay

wrong construction of the contract would be allowed. Lord Justice Schiemann agreed and Lord Justice Hirst delivered a

concurring judgment. Solicitors: Rowley Ashworth, Wimbledon; Burnetts, Carlisle,

Jurisdiction plea and objection to charge

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice Harrison and Mr Justice

Dudgment February 20 A distinction had to be drawn between a plea to the jurisdiction of the court under rule 36 and an objection to a particular charge under rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure (Air Force) (SI 1972 No 419) as amended, made pursuant to section 103 of the Air Force Act 1955: see Manual of Air Force Law (6th edition (1989) volume i,

amendment 3).
The Courts-Martial Appeal Court so held in refusing an application by Graham David Lisle for leave to appeal against his conviction in April 1996 at a general court martial held at RAF

Locking (Assistant Judge Advocate General Chapple) of indecent

Mr Patrick Mason, solicitor, for the applicant: Mr Simon Morgan for the prosecution.

MR JUSTICE HARRISON, giving the judgment of the court, said that before the court martial the applicant had objected to the charge of attempted rape since by section 70(4) of the 1955 Act there was a statutory bar to a defendant being charged with such an offence

under that section. it appeared that the court martial had dealt with the point under rule 36, which dealt with applications where there was no jurisdiction to try any charge at all, for example where the defendant was charge had not been investigated by his commanding officer in the prescribed manner: see note to rule

it was quite clear, however, to their Lordships that that was a matter which should have been dealt with under rule 37 since the objection was to the validity of the charge of attempted rape.

Rule 37(2) allowed the court where there was another charge to proceed with the trial of such a charge. In this case there was also a charge of indecent assault upon which the court was able to

ornoced. Although the judge advocate was wrong to assume that the application was properly made

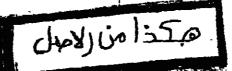
umder rule 36 there was no

the application. There was no doubt that the

court's finding was justified on the evidence and it was not arguable that the conviction was unsafe. Application for leave to appeal was Solicitors: Mr Patrick Mason,

Taunton: Director of Legal Services, RAF Innsworth.

· English cases in The Times Law Report are supplied by barristers of the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting for England and Wales, 3 Stone Buildings, Lin-coln's Inn. London, WC24 3XN: Tel 0171 831 6664; Fax 0171 404



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■ PROFILE

Will the new men at the Barbican turn the RSC's absence in the summer months to their advantage?



MUSIC I

The Houston Symphony goes for the epic sound under the baton of Christoph Eschenbach



MUSIC 2

... while Daniele Gatti shows his flair for Austrian repertoire with the Royal Philharmonic



■ TOMORROW

How successfully does Miller's The Crucible transfer to the screen? Read Geoff Brown on the new films

Barbican aims for a world service

Can the City's troubled arts centre be reinvented as London's international theatre? Richard Morrison reports-

theatre

has never

been used

to its full

potential ?

Сотпралу

he Barbican is on the brink of a brave new era. But then, it usually is. After 20 years of construction and 15 years of turbulent operation (its birthday falls next Monday), the City of London's concrete culture palace has been through more eras than the average history book.

Its first brave new age was inaugurated in 1982, when the Queen opened it with the resounding declaration that it was "a wonder of the modern world". It certainly was. Most Londoners and also fitted our ethos as a

took years to work out how to find it, and then how to get in without forcing open a fire exit. That was also the Era of Hopeless idealism, when the London Symphony Orchestra nearly went bust attempting to fill its new home with avant-garde programmes at wacky times of day.

Then came the Era of Stroppy Thespians, years. The resident Shakespeare

rubbished the Barbican at every turn, demanded changes to the theatre (granted), and periodically threatened to quit unless given big subsidy hikes by the Corporation of London and the Arts Council (granted). In 1995 the RSC announced that it was leaving anyway - at least for the summer. when London is full of tourists wanting to see the company.

What else? Well, who can forget the Detta Era, swiftly followed by the "Get Detta Out" Era? The brief but exhausting Barbican reign of the Irish businesswoman Baroness O'Cathain resulted in the resignation of 50 staff members — the last. being the baroness herself, forced out after the LSO literally orchestrated her downfall.

And now? Again the Barbican has new brooms, new dreams. The baroness never disguised her contempt for the people she endearingly described as "arty-farty types"; she also left the Barbican with the most peculiar decor seen in a public building since the late Liberace hung up his suit. But now the centre has the ultra-cultured John Tues at the helm: a man who, even when running the BBC. World Service, rarely seemed to spend a night away from theatre, opera house or concert hall. The contrast

could not be greater. And as his arts director Tusa has poached from the rival South Bank Centre one of the brighter arts planners

around, Graham Sheffield. Sheffield bristles with ideas about how to fill the Barbican's theatres during the 22 summer weeks each year that the RSC will be absent. We could have imported a Peter Hall-type repertory theatre company, or even put in a musical. But I wanted something that did not duplicate the West End

subsidised arts centre. So we decided to be-6 The main come London's international festival Barbican

theatre." Which means that the Barbican will host the kind of large-scale foreign work - theat-rical, lyric and dance - that comes to the Edinburgh Pestival and enterprising regional theatres, but not to London. Shef-field wants to strike up partnerships with the trendier foreign

festivals. "Lincoln Center, Vicinna, BAM in New York, Holland: that's the sort of circuit I want to plug into. They haven't had a London partner, and they will add a contemporary but also popular

edge to our programming. Amazingly enough. Sheffield says, this sudden gust of foreign competition has actually strengthened the Barbican's relationship with its truculent theatre partner, the RSC. "We are working towards a very clear deal, whereby the RSC will manage the theatres on our behalf throughout the year. We will pay them a management fee, plus a programming fee for the 30 weeks of their own shows. The contract will be very specific as to who is providing what for whom. There will be no option for the RSC to go back to the Corporation and ask for more money if things get tight, as

happened in the past. The dream of turning the Barbitheatre (beginning with Ninagawa epic in October) is just one of the bright ideas buzzing round the windy walkways. This summer the theatre will get a £1.9 million refurbishment, which (among other things) will enhance its orchestra pit and acoustics. That will prepare for the Royal Opera's visit in September, bringing Ra-



New brooms bring a clean sweep to the City's windy walkways: the Barbican's managing director, John Tusa (left), and the centre's arts director, Graham Sheffield

mean's Platte. Britten's Turn of the Screw and Handel's Julius Caesar. Sheffield thinks the theatre has great potential for vocal and dance work. "You show directors the space and they love it. It's never been used to its full potential. That's not the RSC's fault; they have to transfer productions designed for Stratford."

Won't this emphasis on dance, physical theatre and medium-scale opera bring the Barbican into competition with Sadler's Wells, refurbished (with £30 million of lottery money) and soon to reopen up the road? Tusa and Sheffield deflect this question by speaking grandly of a "north-east cultural curridor" as an alternative to the West End. There are a lot of good restaurants opening up in Clerkenwell," says the ever-optimistic Shef-field. He also claims to have worked out a "protocol" with Sadler's Wells, "whereby we are not programming Merce Cunningham against Bill Forsythe, or

Other plans? From next year the new brooms also want to mount an annual summer formight of theatre for and by children. This year there will probably be a circus on the sculpture court, presumably not with elephants.

And there are plans for a great missionary campaign to tell the residents of nearby London bor-oughs about the Barbican. "How many people out there use us as their local cinema?" Sheffield asks. The question is rhetorical, of don't, as a rule, use the Barbican at all. "It's a buge hole in our marketing, and it would widen our

social and age profiles." Naturally, there is a large "if" in all this. The money has to be raised. The Corporation of London gave £17 million to the Barbican last year, and although the superb LSO concert seasons have given the City

cause for pride, there is less satisfaction about the shenanigans on the theatre side over the years. Tusa and Sheffield need to retain every penny of the Corporation's grant if they are to realise their plans. But the Corporation has embarked on a tough spending curb, and the Barbican is not exempt. A cut of more than El million is currently mooted. Ominously, Michael Cassidy, the canny lawyer who headed the Corporation's policy and resources committee, quit last December with the prediction that the Corporation

was "beginning to show signs of

pulling in its horns".

So, rather late in the day, the Barbican has begun a serious quest for commercial sponsorship. "It is strange," Sheffield admits, "that the Barbican had never talked to its neighbours. We have all these big companies sitting on our doorstep, Barbican had to offer. We've been inviting businessmen to dinner, and many say: 'We never knew you had a conservatory, a cinema, an

art gallery..."
Now they do. But will they help to bankroll the Barbican into its latest brave new era? Let's hope that, for once, great expectations triumph over hard times.

CONCERTS: Cross-cultural new commission in Scotland; two excursions into the realms of emotion in London

Essence of Iona

THE problem with most collaborations between composers and visual artists is that, though they might set out together, the music and the painting or the sculpture tend to develop in their own way and end up not knowing each other. But A Meditation on lona, the latest of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra's City of Glasgow Commissions, represents a true partnership in that the sound and the vision are mutually enhancing.

The authentic way to experience the collaboration will be to hear James MacMillan's music for strings and percussion in view of Sue Jane Taylor's sand-blasted glass panels, the latter mounted against a black background and so illuminated as to offer an cerie negative image of Iona seen across the sea. The composer and the sculptor are clearly both impressed not only by the beauty but also by the religious associations of the island, and they have both attempted to design textures which allow something of that spiritual dimension to be perceived beyond the surface.

It was a pity that the first performances of A Meditation on Iona - given with evidently complete conviction by Joseph Swensen and the SCO in the City Hall, Glasgow, and the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh - could not have been presented in a more organised context. Strauss's Symphony for Winds sounded oddly trivial after the MacMillan. And Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto, even with the prodigiously talented 14-year-old Karen Gornyo as soloist, is not the kind of work to be given a whole second half of a concert

GERALD LARNER Play With Me. Then it was

Who dares wins

Something about their body language as they prepared for the first chord of Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerto suggested that Mitsuko Uchida and Christoph Eschenbach were about to forge a dynamic partner-ship. Both she, elegantly impetuous as aiways, and he, brisk and businesslike. seemed eager to get things under way. And, from those tutti chords and eascading arpeggios, there emerged a common strength and sense of purpose that set the tone for

the entire movement. Muscular as the playing was, the sound Eschenbach drew from the Houston Symphony was surprisingly big and beefy. Making few concessions to historical practice, he chose instead to project a powerfully heroic conception in the old-fashioned mould, but with sharply profiled phrasing and leaving room for some delicate touches.

Uchida matched all this

SAXOPHONIST Charles Me-

Pherson is celebrated as one of

the most fluent creators of

spontaneous alto improvisa-

tion since the death of his

greatest inspiration. Charlie

Parker. So it was fitting that

he should introduce himself to

a vociferous audience by

emerging from among them

already playing the bop sta-ple, Blues n' Boogie.

After a blistering examina-

tion of all the Dizzy Gillespic

tune's possibilities, McPher-

son slowed the tempo with his

own Lonely Little Chimes, a

slow-building sweet warble

featured on the saxophonist's

Houston SO/ Eschenbach Barbican

with ferociously assertive playing in the tuttis, while similarly yielding to more poetic instincts where required. These came to the fore much more in the Adagio — a wonderfully rapt meditation — while the finale was dispatched with due aplomb. Heroism might also have

been the watchword of Eschenbach's reading of Bruckner's Fourth Symphony - and certainly "heroic", as often, seemed a more appropriate subtitle than the composer's "Romantic". The opening string tremolandos and horn calls had the sense of spaciousness that heralded a grandly conceived interpretation. In fact, it soon became evident that Eschenbach was going to waste no time in

back to hurtling

through more fa-

miliar changes: I

Remember You

was succeeded

first by a slow

blues and then by two great Charlie

Parker favourites,

Out of Nowhere

Keeping the boiler stoked

for such a ferociously tireless-

soloist is no mean feat, but

McPherson's British rhythm

section - pianist Dave New-

ton, bassist Matt Miles and

drummer Steve Brown -

were clearly energised by their

leader's protean inven-

Is it Bird, or is it on another plane?

Charles

McPherson

Pizza Express

trolled explosion of brass tone. It sounded glorious, it was thrilling; but surely he had shot his bolt too early? And so it turned out. None of the climaxes that followed was able to achieve any greater level of intensity and, to make things worse, they often loomed suddenly out of the blue, denying the all-impor-tant organic nature of

The second movement, in more subdued vein, was more successful, in that the big climax seemed a more inevitable conclusion to the argument. The rousing hunting-horn calls of the Scherzo found the orchestra in fine fettle - crisp brass comple-mented by sleek woodwind and well-upholstered strings -and the symphony ended in an uplifting blaze of colour.

Bruckner's structures.

BARRY MILLINGTON

same club, the

three backed

another American

saxophone great,

Teddy Edwards,

and the contrast

between the two

Americans' ap-

proach was intriguing. Where Edwards had relied on laid-

back cajoling, McPherson pre-

ferred a more hands-on

approach, constantly whisper-

ing encouragement to Brown

in particular, and drawing a

wonderfully crisp, assertive

performance from him as a

result. Newton, too, was suffi-

ciently inspired to blow apart

any notion that he is primarily

Twin pillars of heady romance

IN MY book transfiguration implies some kind of spiritual experience, which is hardly a prominent element either in the illustrative detail of Death and Transfiguration by Richard Strauss, or in the neurotic sensuality of Schoenberg's Transfigured Night. These works were the pillars of a Royal Philharmonic Orchestra programme under Daniele thi, its recently appointed

music director.
Unusually for an Italian,
Gatti evidently has a penchant
for Strauss, to judge from the
number of Strauss works in forthcoming RPO programmes. And on the evi-dence of this one he is able to impart his enthusiasm to the orchestra with beneficent results. His musical depiction of a dying man's pain and fever was done with keenly pointed effect, leading to a surge of rich orchestral tone as trans-

a luminously delicate player

with a series of muscular

Overall, though, as the

whoops and hollers marking

the dimenes of his solos

demonstrated, it was McPher-

son the audience had come to

hear, and, great professional that he is, he did not disap-

point even the most optimistic

fan. As he has done through-

out his career, whether grac-

ing Mingus's hands in the

1960s or providing Parker-like

alto for Clint Eastwood's mov-

ie Bird, McPherson gave 100

per cent - a mature master in

CHRIS PARKER

RPO/Gatti Barbican

figuration ostensibly occurs in a pompous C major.

Nobody would sense any spiritual element in this, although we might admire a technique of orchestration that suggests the approach of death and its ultimate release in graphic detail, just as Schoenberg handled his en-semble of strings only, enlarged from its original form for string sextet, with a skill that embraces both passion and tenderness. Gatti held these aspects in eloquent balance, and drew a lustrous quality of string playing that I

orchestra for some time. In transforming into word less music a poem (by Richard Dehmel) telling of a woman whose present lover forgives her for bearing another man's child, and thereby transfig ures" the long night of their encounter, Schoenberg's masterly control of string texture becomes a temptation to remantic indulgence which Gatti successfully avoided by urging the work forward in a natural flow, giving cogent

expression and articulation to the music's sensuous content. Between these heady excursions into romantic hysteria, Alicia de Larrocha imparted a cool darity and coruscating brilliance to Ravel's Piano Concerto with a fleet-fingered vividness that belied her age but not her experience. The long piano solo could have taken more inflection of character, but the rest was consis tently exhibarating.

NOEL GOODWIN

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

JOSEPH ERBER

Age: IZ

Musical prodigy: He has been composing since he was seven, and on Saturday will become the youngest person ever to have work performed by the LSO.

Name that tune: The LSO family concert at the Barbican will include Song Without Words, Joseph's duet for piano and viola, orchestrated by music animateur Richard McNicol. "I have no idea

how the piece will sound with so many instruments," Joseph says. "But I know I will

feel quite special." How did all this happen? Joseph attended St Bartholomew's Primary School, Sydenham, with the son of the LSO's principal viola, Edward Vanderspar. Last year, Vanderspar admired Joseph's prize-winning plane composition for a schools competition and offered him £100 to write a duet.

Was he reluctant to take the commission? "No, I felt I was ready for it." It took him just over a month in the holidays to complete Song, using the Sibelius 7 computer program. He describes it as "sort of classical, and quite romantic". Debussy, Satie and Poulenc are influences.

Does he find composing easy? "Sometimes it's very frustrating waiting for ideas to come."

Musical parents: His father, James, is a composer. His mother, Deborah Roberts, is a professional singer. She says that Joseph's abilities are beyond her wildest dreams.

Does he write only classical music? Far from it. He has completed a jazz quintet for flute, oboe, two saxonhones and bass guitar, and hopes to write choral music and a musical.

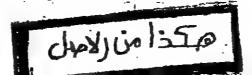
DANIEL ROSENTHAL

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only in THE TIMES

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CHOICE 1

Russian virtuoso pianist Evgeny Kissin plays a London recital **VENUE:** Tonight at

George, bartone (Purcel Poom, 7.30pm) At 7.45pm, the Queen Ecaboth Hall is the venue for a performance of Passagea, a visually powerful and redical piece of music theatre created from 20 new songs. South Bank, SE (0171-960 4242) Toroght, vangus limes and venues

COVENTRY Dr Evodor Hinge and Darro Hidu Braduel star as Lattle Shoet and Lettuce Doublet in Peter Shoeter's alculut and Lettuce Doublet in Peter Shoeter's alculut annung play, Lettine & Levenge Belgrade. Belgrade Square (1920) 55:0055 (Opens boday, Mon-Thurs, 7:30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm matr., Wed (Mar S), 2:30pm and Sats, Apm. Until March 8: Next in Congloin, Ashcroft (0181-588 9291), March 10-15 (0)

THEATRE GUIDE

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stars Heen rations, songs by Tim Ros, Laberts Apollo, Ousen Caroline Hammoranah, W6 (0171-416

III ST ANCHOLAS: Brant Cox plays a terruig theatre critic who leds for a young attress, which probably doesn't prove a good move One-man play written and directed by Conor McPiterson.

5050) Mon-Sat, dom. Until April 5.

House full, returns only Seem was eremain Seets at all prices

ELSEWHERE

the Festival Hall

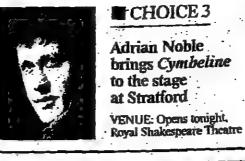


■ CHOICE 2

Hinge and Bracket take the leads in Shaffer's Lettice & Lovage

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Belgrade, Coventry

THE



CHOICE 3

Adrian Noble brings Cymbeline to the stage at Stratford VENUE: Opens tonight.



POP

Contradictory but compelling, Jamiroquai turn on their abundant talent in Cambridge

CRAIG BARRITT/LONDON FEATURES

LONDON

BIRDY Nortem Exposure's Rob Mouse pors hear Knight's cast in Neom Viallace's laconating version of the Ankan Whaton roughle the Wildom Whatton round is brychologically damaged Gl (Matthew Was) betwees he is a bird. Or does he? Comedy, Parton Street, SWI 10171-359 1731 Provious begin longfd. Spm. Opens Maich S. 7pm.

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Consort in songs by Chweld von
Yalkenstein as part of the Early Music
Settes With Cathorino Boft, soprand
Phal Aghew, fonor, and Michael

AMERICAN SUFFALO Doubles Her-thall Roll Stulie and Norolais
Wardcoan play the small-time crooks
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NEW RELEASES CINEMA GUIDE FLIRT (15) Three rotated tales of the

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CURRENT

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SOUTHAMPTON, Derek Desne s production of **Glande** for English National Ballet updates Act I to fine TODAY'S CHOICE reactive trains to the products extra to the glamprous 1820s, while Act II is played out in a mist-enstrouded forest blaytower, Continencial Road (01703 71811). Tompin-Sat, 7 30pm and Sat 2 30pm Until March 1 (2) A daily guide to arts compiled by Gillian Maxey

STRATEGOD JOSEPH PROCE Dancer Leves and Guy Henry in Adnah Noble's production of Cymbellina a lascinating late play and something of a renty Renyal Shellempeans, Waterside [01789.295823] Opens tonight, Tipm Then in see

GLASGOW The official first right performance in this year's term anniversary New Movins dance testival is the Bristian permission of a new work by choneographier. Truss Bronkhurst end Manen Jöngewaard and their company Saching van de Toel ontst Endeed Truss Bronkhurst and Manen Jongewaard and Frends the based explores the bonds of trundstimp between seven male durinons, as well as exploring their differences.

Trainvery Albert Dirac (0141-327 ESTI), Tengelt and tomonous, 8pm S

Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388), Mort-Sat, Sprin CITHE SHALLOW END, Doug Lucie's play has out at metha-mon but the result is unconvincing flow of York's), SI Martin's Lane WC2 (0) 71-865 5000), Mon-Set, 7 30pm mail Set, 3 30pm

Listrice Can Notice Designation by Association by Peter Hell Try to longer for film Theater Royal. Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Mon-Sal, 7 45pm; mults Truts and Saf, Spm; mults Truts and Saf, Spm.

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amiroquai are full of contradic- instrumental. Within 30 seconds he is tions. They play 1970s jazz-funk grooves for a 1990s generation. They donate a percentage of their earnings to Greenpeace, but Jay Kay. their iconic leader, has a love affair with fast cars. Onstage, Kay's arch cockney vowels and ludicrous trademark titler make him a dead ringer for the Artful Dodger in Oliver! - until he begins to sing, and be-comes Stevie Wonder. POP

Four years ago Sony signed them to an almost Jamiroquai burn deal. After the first three hugely successful instalments, it looks like an asture piece of business. The large

number of teenage girls present at the Corn Exchange proved that the audience for funky, danceable disco-pop is constantly being renewed and requires its own contemporary champions. What happens next is another question, but for the moment Jamiroquai

could not be riding higher.

Although the band is the size of a football team, Jamiroquai is Kay. He conducts the band with strange pointing gestures and, even during the solos. he dances irrepressibly, ensuring that he remains the sole focus of attention. At one point he says "I'm knackered", and sits down to make way for an

THE decision by Colin.

Blunstone to dip a toe back

into the piranha pool that is

modern music is more than

welcome. Two years ago one of England's most distinctive

pop voices was to be heard

again on the comeback album

Echo Bridge, but sadly the

label that released it, Perma-

nent Records, did not prove true to its name and folded.

All the more reason, then, to applaud Biunstone's arrival

back oustage for the first time

in 23 years. In those days, his

career was still an ongoing

concern, warmed by chart

up and back in overdrive. Fortunately, Jamiroquai are more

than a retro dance act. There are strong echoes of 1970s disco, but there is a highly developed jazz groove, too, particularly from the three-strong horn section, while Wallis Buchanan's spooky, timeless didgeridoo adds its own unique texture. Melodically, Kay's

songs are adventurous, and even the hit singles such as Virtual Insanity and Cosmic Girl combine catchy hooks with unexpected twists and turns. At the start of a 13-date

British tour this was a banging gig, but the nagging question is where Kay goes from here. Travelling Without Moving is the title of the current album and seems to sum up their journey so far. They get bigger and bigger without making much and musical progress. There are several options. Kay might experiment with strings, or he could choose to explore a purer jazz groove. Whatever he does, at 26 time is still on his side; but the day is going to come when a fickle pop audience wonders what else he can do. And Kay had better have a good



NIGEL WILLIAMSON The cat in the funny hat: Jay Kay, lord high everything of Jamiroquai

Zombie alive and kicking

and airplay success with the richly romantic songs of writers such as Russ Ballard and Tim Hardin. To judge by the lyrical bumps and grinds that pass for today's chansons d'amour, he who still sings of lost love and undying devo-tion has been consigned to the chart chocolate box, alongside other soft centres such as

Sacha Distel and Jack Jones. But the word had obviously not reached the Borderline. Colin Blunstone Borderline, WI

the London location for Blunstone's re-emergence. Fellow survivors such as Kiki Dee and Judie Tzuke have recently made modestly triumphant returns, and Blunstone may draw great encouragement from a

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Borderline, and the warm reception they gave him.

His able quartet was led on .. keyboards by Don Airey, once of rock titans Rainbow, but Blunstone's task was made. sterner by the lack of backing vocalists - and, no doubt, by the prospect of having to recapture those gravity-defying high notes we remember him reaching 25 years ago in I Don't Believe in Miracles and Say You Don't Mind. But

his vocal agility proved to be impressively preserved. The evening offered a review of Blunstone's entire career, right back to the days of She's Not There and Time of the Season, as fellow former Zombies Rod Argent and Chris White looked on. His reading of Billy Bragg's Levi Stubbs Tears was exemplary and, as a hush fell, to observe him caressing Hardin's Misty Roses was like finding a petal pressed in a book about the old days.

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THEATRE 1

The unknown Tennessee: the RSC and others dust off many of the rarer Williams plays



THEATRE 2

At the Riverside Studios, a new play about a miscarriage of justice falls short on quality

THE



■ THEATRE 3

.. while the fine work of the American writer Susan Glaspell is revived at the Orange Tree



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Special prices for the latest John Godber production: see Theatre Club for details

THEATRE: Why Southern discomfort is flavour of the month. Plus a court case re-examined, and an American playwright re-assessed

A return ticket to Tennessee

There's more to Tennessee Williams than Streetcar, as British audiences are

about to discover. Matt Wolf reports

ennessee Williams's reputation over the last decade or so has rested on his biggest plays — A Street-car Named Desire, The Glass Menagerie, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof - and two or three others staged on both sides of the Atlantic since the playwright's death in 1983.

But the most recent Williams revival on Broadway was something different — the infrequently performed Summer and Smoke.

And in the next formight, three of Williams's more obscure plays two of them never seen professionally in Britain, the third not for 40 years - are receiving important productions.

Tomorrow, the RSC opens in Stratford its first Williams staging. Camino Real, which was last directed by Peter Hall in London in 1957, with Denholm Elliot and Ronnie Barker in the cast; its Stratford director is Steven Pimlott. Then next month the Cheek By Jowl touring company makes its first-ever venture into the American rependire with Williams's Out Cry, a 1973 Broadway flop; it opens in Cheltenham before arriving at the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith late in April. And a few nights later previews start at Plymouth's Drum Theatre of Tiger Tail, based on Williams's screenplay for the 1956 film, Bahy Doll. The cast includes. Paul-Herzberg, who in: 1983 was Stanley to Shella Giah's Blanche in

That's not all. Later this year, again at the Lyric Hammersmith.

will come the London transfer of Philip Prowse's recent Glasgow production of Williams's The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore. Rupert Everett, in cross-dressing mode, will take on the Tallulah Bankhead/Elizabeth Taylor role of the ageing siren, Mrs Goforth.
Why all this activity? In part it.

reflects a British interest in the author's canon that has always surpassed that shown in Williams's own country, where conservative, celebrity-laden revivals have been the norm. Orpheus Descending, for instance, would never have travelled to Broadway in 1989 with Vanessa Redgrave had Peter Hall not revived the play successfully the previous year in the West End. But mainly it has to do with the death, just over three years ago, of Williams's longtime friend and keeper of his estate, Maria St Just, who kept such a watchful eye on his work that its full range rarely got performed.

"Maria did keep a very tight grip on things," Tom Erhardt, the worldwide agent for the Williams entate, says of Lady St Just, who is thought to have favoured Peter Hall and Richard Eyre as Williams interpreters to the exclusion of virtually everyone else. "She wouldn't let anybody else do Tennessee for a very long time. If Maria had been alive, I'm sure she would not, for instance, have allowed Sam [Mendes] to direct The Class Menagerie."

people over time had asked to do



Termessee Williams sitting in Sloane Square in 1959 before Orpheus Descending opened at the Royal Court; that play was revived nearly 30 years later by Peter Hall

Camino Real, and "Maria would not permit it. The thing is, it hadn't been seen for a long, long time, and she felt there would be a lot of critical attention focused on it; she didn't want to take a chance on an .unknown, quantity," (Last year, exactly such a chance was taken in Cincinnati, Ohio, with the premiere The Class Menagerie. of a newly discovered Williams
Erhardt points out that several play, The Notebook of Trigorin,
copile over time had asked to do starring Lynn Redgrave.)

Hall disputes this assessment of St Just, arguing that "the resurgence of Tennessee is very largely due to her care and enthusiasm. It's simply that she was an opinionated lady who left quite a few people with sore heads." But Barbara Matthews, Cheek By Jowi's admin-istrator, acknowledges a "loosen-ing-up" of control over the plays: "I got the feeling we would not have had the rights to Out Cry earlier."

What do these plays tell us about a writer who retains as singular a voice as any in contemporary theatre? "It's astonishing how much it reveals of him in a very personal way, "says Timothy Walk-er, the director of Out Cry. Walker believes the play anticipates the psychosexual tugs-of-war so popu-lar in American theatre, such as Sam Shepard's Fool For Love, which premiered II years later.

As for Camino Real, director Pimlott pays tribute to "an American play, with all that American heart and guts, alongside a freewheeling nature that seems deeply European". Requiring a cast of 25, the play makes financial demands more easily met outside the US, where characters such as Byron, Marguerite Gautier and Don Quixote may count for more, as well. "People say Camino is flawed,

but at least half of Shakespeare is majorly flawed," says Pimlott.
"Tennessee off his form is still a million times better than most people on theirs."

Camino Real opens tomorrow at the RSC in Straiford (01789 295623): Out Cry opens on March 5 at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham (01242 572573): Tiger Tail opens on March 10 at the Drum Theatre, Plymouth (01752 267222)

Poor showing for poor Stefan

THE case of Stefan Kiszko (his name is changed to Ivan Mitrovich in this play) is deeply shocking. A simple, slightly madequate, home loving son of refugees who whole-heartedly believed in the fairness and decency of the British way of life, he was falsely accused of the murder of a young girl and impris-oned for 16 years before his

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Duchess Theatre

To Mar 4

name was cleared. This play by Found Zloof and Eva Lynn is fired by the desire to right a wrong, but Kiszko's cause is little furthered by so inept a piece of theatre.

The production by Hugh Beardesmore-Billings does little to animate the bald facts of the case. Each of the nine actors plays a range of solicitors, barristers, magistrates

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sparkling comedy, Much Ado About Nothing. Mem-

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Ivan: A Miscarriage of Justice Riverside Studios

and policemen, but there is not a fully developed character among them. The case is so clearly weighted that it is intellectually frustrating and emotionally unengaging. The most glaring omission

from the play is the absence of "Ivan" himself. Since he is the most interesting character it is an offence to the drama to exclude him, and does him no favours. We hear so much about this 23-year-old prepubescent boy, whose physical manurity was stimted by a lack of the male hormone until he was prescribed testosterone injections, that he becomes more of a bogeyman in our minds, albeit one who is

horribly wronged. The one character who lives

for us is his steadfast mother Charlotte, who was with him at the time of the murder but was not believed in court. With very little money and no knowledge of the legal system, she campaigned on his behalf for 16 years until the glaring flaws in the case were un-earthed. After so many years of victimisation in prisons and psychiatric hospitals, the innocent Kiszko died within a

month of his release. As Charlotte, Anne Cheveau carries the whole emotional weight of the play, though her spirited and sensitive performance is hampered by an unsubtle script. Her naive belief in human goodness and truth led her unintentionally to prejudice Kiszko's chances of a lighter sentence. She died within five months of Kiszko's death. That injustice cannot be righted, though her story at

least will be remembered. CLARE BAYLEY

Ideals in danger

THE American playwright Susan Glaspell (1876-1948) was reintroduced to us last year when Sam Walters directed The Verge, a study of awkward idealism that struck me as poor stuff. Very different is the present play, again directed by Walters, where Glaspell's qualities as a dramatist and social analyst come boldly across.

came with the First World

War which demonised those

Her play begins on Silas

Morton's farm in Illinois in

1879. His mother (Sheila

Burrell) was the first white

woman in the area and Silas

himself (Mark Kingston) was

born in the covered wagon

that brought the family there.

and from the window can be

seen the hill he refuses to sell

because it was sacred to Black

Hawk's Indians. His close

friend Felix (Francis Mat-

thews) is a cultured Hungar-

ian nobleman exiled for taking part in the revolution of 1848.

who did not fit the pattern.

Glaspell was among the earliest to use the stage to state that the American Dream was now rancid. Here she suggests Mar 5. Tickets normally two turning-points: the boom years that followed the Civil £7.75. Tel 0161-236 7110 War, replacing earlier ideals with greed; and the redefinition of Americanism that

POOLE Arts Centre Apr 22. Tickets normally £11. Tel 01202 685222

Apr 16. Tickets normally

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Inspired by him, Silas donates the hill for a college to be built where "ideas can flow from mind to mind like seeds".

Facts and feelings have to be compressed into this first quarter of the play; and likewise 40 years later, when Glaspell introduces the next generation of the two families. now intermarried and facing issues that test earlier principles. The new victims are Asian Indians, protesting at British tyranny and about to be deported so as not to iconardise the college's appeal

for state funding.
Only Madeline, the radical grand-daughter of Silas and Felix, takes up their cause, and at last the play strides forward into personal and political motives. Lisé Stevenson invests Madeline with the passion of youth, torn between different duties. The early material burdens the play, but the second half is a wellcrafted demociation of the true enemies of democracy.

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A PRIVERS 13 Olivier Panis 14 Jos Verstappen 15 Ukyo Katayama

01 Damon Hill

02 Michael Schumache

03 Jacques Villeneuve

16 Pedro Diniz 17 Ricardo Rosset 18 Ralf Schumacher

25 Williams

26 Ferrari 27 McLaren 26 Benetton

\$1 Arrows 32 Sauber 33 Tyrreli 34 Minardi

Make 3 selections from Each of These from Group

35 Stewart 36 Lole

07 Mika Hakkinen

C48 David Coulthard

11 Johnny Herbert

20 Shinji Nakano

23 Jan Magnussen

24 Vincenzo Sospiri

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22 Jamo Trulli

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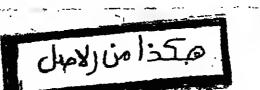
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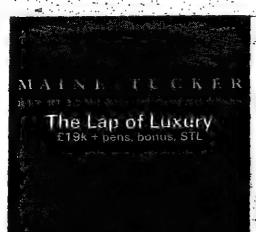
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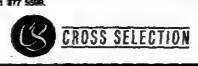
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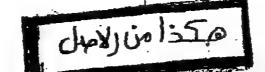
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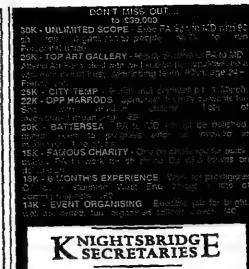
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EAST ANGLIA

BARNS FOR CONVERSION

QUALITY TO APPRECIATE

The VAT man cometh

Dixie Nichols on a hot line that

separates the

non-payers in the building trade

ustoms and Excise last
September launched a
telephone hot line to enable people to inform on
builders who evade VAT payments.
Now they are taking about 40
calls a week. Half their leads come
from disgruntled homeowners
whose cash-in-hand builders have
let them down and half come from
builders who have tendered for the
job and have been undercur by
rivals who are not playing it by the

When calling in the builders, most people will go to a couple of companies for a quote. One might be an established local firm and the other might be the man that a friend used to get a roof repaired. The local firm will sand in a written quote which will say plus VAT. The other quote might well be verbal. "cash unless you want to pay the VAT". So the first firm is going to be under pressure to lose their VAT or not do the job. Few people can resist the temptation to save 17.5 per cent.

Peter Crow of the old, established Essex builders G.Crow and Son has seen his small works business "virtually wiped out" since the

Peter Crow of the old, established Essex builders G.Crow and Son has seen his small works business virtually wiped out" since the extension of VAT to alterations and extensions in 1989. The company used to employ 24 men but is now down to 13. He is competing not just with the cash-in-hand merchants but also with the small painter and decorator or jobbing builder, who need not register for VAT (and therefore does not have to charge it) as long as its annual turnover is under the current 547 000 threshold.

Mr Crow understands the customer's point of view. He says:
"Why should they pay 17.5 per cent extra just for the pleasure of having Mr Crow do their decorating?"

On small jobs a registered firm competing with an unregistered firm will lose out even though its quote before VAT is considerably lower. I have personally seen documentation for one house renovation where the successful unregistered firm quoted £18,920 while the competition quoted £16,409 but still lost the job because it had to add VAT, which took the total to £19,280.58.

David Carter of Carebuild Ltd, a small Berkshire building firm em-



A painter, decorator or builder does not have to pay VAT if annual turnover is less than £47,000

● VAT is not payable on building work on new buildings and on some listed buildings

Some builders who are not registered charge VAT and pocket the extra. You can check their status on the hot line.

 Any builder employing a full-time labourer will find it hard to keep under the yearly threshold given the cost of materials involved.

 Further information: Call the VAT construction hot line on 0500 550 400/450.

ploying eight men, says the introduction of VAT has been "instrumental in destroying the goodness in the industry and has pushed decent companies to the wall." Mr Carter says he is put under pressure by customers to forget about the VAT. "We lose job after job because we have to charge VAT." he says. "The desire for avoidance

is universal. Doctors, dentists, housing associations and private householders cannot claim back the VAT, so don't want to pay." One of the ways around this is to divide work, up and use unregistered contractors.

There is a massive amount of evasion going on, with many unregistered traders earning well

above the threshold. There are also registered companies who do some jobs for the books and some for cash-in-hand. Customs and Excise believe the construction industry is responsible for a quarter of all lost VAT revenue.

Mr Carter is doubtful that the VAT inspectors will unearth much evasion. "I'm convinced they

never known any of the cash-inhand brigade get caught."

The September initiative was a pilot scheme and little has been done to publicise the existence of the hot line. The 5,000-strong Building Employers Confederation, who have been pressing for action against VAT evaders for some time, have circulated whistle-

haven't got the right knowledge, they don't know the first thing

about construction and have no idea how it is done. They don't seek

advice and they behave like a bull in a china shop. In 20 years I have

the hot line. The 5,000-strong Building Employers Confederation, who have been pressing for action against VAT evaders for some time, have circulated whistle-blowing forms to its members and these are coming back at about five a week.

Liz Bridge, the confederation's tax expert, says: "We've demonstrated that was have not been

tax expert, says: "We've demonstrated that we have not been bleating about a non-existent problem, and that Customs can earn money through its investigation." She says that the industry is able to supply leads as it tenders for work and that it knows the costs involved.

Customs and Excise's only spe-

Customs and Excise's only specialist Construction Compliance team is based in North London. It has handled 300 active cases in six months, which have triggered 14 registrations for VAT from the shadow economy. The impact may not be massive but word will spread.

The whole governmental spendto-save initiative is bad news for the evader, and some builders are now running scared. The sharing of information between departments means that once one department has finished with a wrongdoer, he or she is passed on to the next and the next until there is no money left. Custowns and Excise periodically go through local-paper advertising and the Yellow Pages, checking advertisers against its lists of those registered for VAT.

where do householders stand in all this? Can they be shown to have colluded in VAT evasion and find themselves in trouble? The good news is that a householder's position is secure: it is not illegal to offer cash payment. The responsibility for the proper payment of VAT lies firmly with the contractor. The risk for householders is that they have no guarantees if there is no proper paperwork.

Those builders in the shadow

economy who are beginning to think it might be time to join the VAT club can expect a sympathetic reception. A Customs and Excise spokesperson says: "We will look closely at all mitigating circumstances. If they come clean, then we do not want to see them go bankrupt."

So if guilty builders want to avoid

being nailed to the floor, perhaps

they should have a quiet word in an

official ear.

The Mock Turtle: Ronay-recommended, for sale at £215,000

Fine food

with all the trimmings
ONE OF Dorchester's finest restaurants is for sale. Asking reins for the Four Roman.

restaurants is for sale. Asking price for the Egon Ronay-recommended Mock Turtle Restaurant, complete with two self-contained flats and parking space is £215,000. The restaurant, in the heart of Thomas Hardy country, is mentioned in the Michelin and Good Food guides. The county archives tell of a 1824 storm in which the chimneys of the building collapsed, killing the rector and his wife, who lived there. Details from Jackson-Stops & Staff, Dorchester, 01305 251400.

Free service

SOMETHING for nothing? A two-bedroom, first-floor flat on Hyde Park has no service charges, because of an ancient clause in the lease, even though the landlord is required to maintain and insure the building, provide hot water, central heating and employ a resident caretaker. The flat, which needs some updating, has two reception rooms and two bathrooms,

and offers in excess of £600,000 are sought for the 47-year lease. The managing agents say a charge of £140,000 would have applied to the apartment this financial year if normal service charges had been in force. Details from Savilis, 145 Kensington Church Street, London, 0171-221 1751.

Holding back

THE SHORTAGE of property for sale shows no sign of easing, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in its latest survey of the housing market in the three months to the end of January. Reasons for delays in selling are that owners are waiting for the summer payouts by building societies being "demutualised", and the institution says, an unwillingness to sell before they have found another property.

Northern light

A £1 MILLION glass-walled penthouse is to be built on top of one of the oldest warehouses in Leeds, Simpson's Fold, which dates back to 1520. The penthouse, with solar-powered heating, a private running track, gymnasium and staff quarters, has been designed by Gordon Carey and is being developed by the Leeds Loft Company.

New Housing Act rules will give landlords speedier powers of eviction

LANDLORDS can repossess their property faster for nonpayment of rent after Friday when new rules laid down by the Housing Act, 1996, come

Under the Act, courts must order possession when a tenant fails to pay rent for two months instead of three. Repossession can also be ordered for anti-social behaviour, not only if the tenant misbehaves, but also his friends.

Assured shorthold tenancies for rented flats are no longer confined to an initial six months minimum letting if both landlord and tenant agree, unless the rent is more than £25,000 a year. This provides more flexibility for landlords, who might wish to take on a short-term tenant to "fill in" between long-term tenancies, and help house-hunters who move into rented accommodation for an unknown spell after selling one

Tougher rules for tenants

property while looking for another to buy.

The new Act assumes that any new tenancy is an assured shorthold tenancy unless there is any paperwork to confirm any alternative agreement. This removes an ambiguity in the law which previously led to landlords sometimes creating sliting tenancies inadvertently.

and tenant tenancies inadvertently.

The measures are likely to benefit small investors who take out a second mortgage to buy a flat or house to let to measures into rented for an unselling one

Trules

"We believe the new Housing Act has created a fairer balance between the rights of tenants and those of fand-lords, A landlord should be able to protect property which may be his own home or a significant part of his savings or investment plan."

But the decrease in the

a key point. Previously the private tenants' security is not tenant could string it out because the landlord would welcomed by the National Association of Citizens Advice take him to court at the end of Bureaux, which says there was no justification for reducthree months, the court would give the tenant up to 28 days to leave, and the landlord ing the time for rent arrears from three months to two. This is of even greater concould lose four months' rent." The new measures were cern given changes to housing welcomed by Caroline Cope, Chairman of the Association benefit regulations which will provide for housing benefit to of Residential Letting Agents, be paid in arrears," said a who says: "Although the 1988 spokeswoman. "CAB already Housing Act restored the principle of a free and fair too often report clients facing rent arrears and threatened market for landlord and tenwith possession because of delays in payment of their housing benefit." ant, the new Act has simplified the legal framework and

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Bargains at home and abroad

will encourage more land-

lords to come into the market.

there are some newcomers and a surprising number of veterans in the third of The Times's regular series on bargain houses which have been for sale for many months.

Flass, near Maulds Meaburn, Cum-

bria! has been for sale for four years. In our last column, Charles Yeoman of Strutt & Parker said he would not reduce the 1750,000 asking price because the buyer would be one applicant in a million. Almost four months later, the Grade II Palladian villa has yet to find that buyer. Mr Yeoman says: "More people are now showing an interest, and suitable buyers are now coming out of the woodwork."

Just entering its fourth year on the market, Netherby Hall, near Carlisle, is a veteran our first column. On the market since late 1993, it was relaunched last June for £850,000. The fifteenth-century hall, which appears in Sir Walter Scott's Marmion, is now under offer.

Meadow Bank House near the Solway Firth is now under offer, after over three years on the market. The Georgian neoclassical mansion, with a ten-acre park, was reduced from £230,000 to £200,000. In Caithness, lifteenth-century Dunbeath Castle has been on the market for

over a year. Its most recent owner is

Mought to be the mysterious American millionaire, Stanton Avery.

Still a modest E3 million, the castle has 30,000 acres with a 9,000-acre deer forest. Fiddleback Farm near Cartisle came onto the market last November. Already reduced from £210,000 to £187,000, the



Dunbeath Castle: offered at £3 million

Buyers with a keen sense of value are

now coming forward

nine acre farm dating back to 1709 is a bargain, says Peter Hayward of Peter Hayward Associates for anyone seeking land or a commercial opportunity.

There are still bargains in the capital. A

two-bedroom flat at 29. Sloane Gardens,

SWI, has been reduced from £650,000 to £635,000, with a 47-year lease. Agents Douglas & Gordon report that the flat is now under SWI.

Also in SWI is 38, Chapel Street, a fivebedroom family house, which has been on the market for over a year. With only 35 years left on the lease, the house has been reduced by over £200,000, from £800,000 to £995,000. Witham House in Langrick, Lincoln-

shire, has been reduced from £310,000 to £275,000 since it went onto the market last June, with an indoor swimming pool thrown in. The five-bedroom country house has five acres, outbuildings and greenhouses.

Further afield, Chalet Brames near Meribel, in France, has been on the market for almost two years and its price reduced from about £2.5 million to about £1.8 million.

One long-unsold property, Les Louves near St Tropez, did finally move last week. It was reduced last year from Fr9 million (about £1 million) to Fr6.5 million. The current strength of the pound may have helped prompt the sale.

AMANDA LOOSE

Flass: Strutt & Parker 01423 561274;
Netherby Hall: Jackson Stops & Staff 0171 589
4536; Meadow Bank House: Savilis 0151-226
696); Dunbeath Castle: Knight Frank 0131-225
8171: Fiddleback Farm: Peter Hayward Associates 01228 810300; Flat 4.29 Sloane Gardens:
Douglas & Garden 0171-225 1225; 38 Chapel
Street: Beaney Pearce 0171-589 1333; Witham
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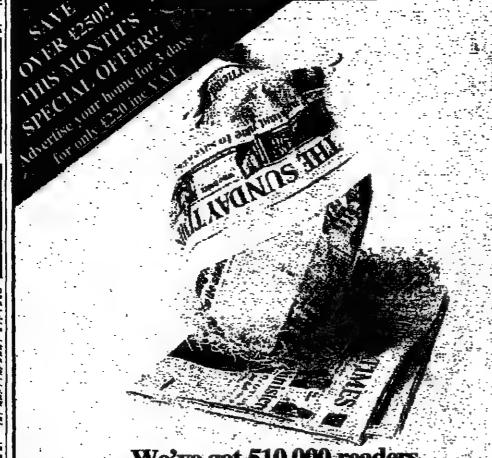
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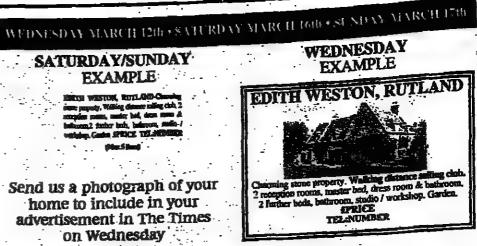
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SECTION.

Market No. 1941

LA KIND BOOK - AND

RACING: BOLA AGREES THAT TIME IS RIGHT FOR REVIEW OF FUNDING

Bookmakers open way for alternative to levy

A stern critic of existing

arrangements is Peter Savill. who was yesterday elected president of the Racehorse

Owners' Association (ROA).

Savill's defeat of Sir Eric

Parker, by 13 votes to seven, in

a poll among council mem-bers, is indicative of the ROA's

growing disenchantment with

Lord Donoughue, the Lab-our party's racing spokesman in the House of Lords, high-

lighted the bleak long-term

prospects for racing in The Times yesterday. His views came a day after Sheikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum and

Chris Brasher both expressed

concern about poor prize-money levels in this country.

Furthermore, the British Horseracing Board (BHB) included an alternative mech-

anism to the levy in the Options For Change docu-ment it circulated earlier this

racing's finances.

KEY sections of the benung industry yesterday indicated a willingness to explore an alterwillingness to explore an amnative source of funding racing. As owners renewed their levels of ing. As owners renewed used concerns over poor levels of concerns over poor levels over concerns over poor aveas or prize-money in Britain, significant off-course betting interests said that the time had come to debate whether the present levy system not bus usurped by rapid developleisure industries.

Tom Kelly, director general of the Betting Office Licensees Association (BOLA), whose members include the three biggest off-course chains, said a review was merited on the age of the mechanism alone. "After 34 years, it is worth looking at the most appropriare way of taking funds from betting for racing," he said.
"So much has changed since
the levy was introduced in 1962. I could see no reason

part as long as it was a totally open-minded review with no pre-conceived solutions." Kelly's comments were endorsed by Chris Bell, managing director of Ladbrokes, Britain's largest bookmaker. He acknowledged that the

funding of racing has become

The Times Private Handlospper's top rating:

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)

2.00 HOGARTH NOVICES HURDLE (92,670: 2m) (14 runners)

2.00 China Castle

3.00 Dorlin Castle

5.00 BOSTON MAN.

2.30 Durano

why BOLA would not take

a primary issue and welcomed the chance to strike an ongo-ing agreement with the racing

"The option for us to deal with each other is there," Bell said. "Everything else spins off levy agreements. You can play with all the bits around the edges, but it would be better to get to the nub of it." Bell maintained that the existing five-year levy deal, due to expire in 2000, offered

the perfect opportunity for the PAL.

Nap. FOXTROT ROMEO (2.50 Taumton) Next best: After The Fox (4.50 Taunton)

two sides to make progress in what will be extremely com-plex discussions. "The fiveyear deal has been beneficial," he said. "It has allowed us to concentrate on managing our business in these difficult times, There are still 2'2 years of the concentrate of the concentration." of that agreement left. In a period of stability, it would be a pity to miss the chance to do something about it."

3.30 SPRITZER (nup)

4.00 Sallor Jim

5.00 Boston Mer

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SETTING: 3-1 Cartist Brogade; 4-1 Forement, 6-1 Chine Castie, 6-1 Feasur, 8-1 Milleuis, 18-1 Montan's Choice, 14-1 Old Hook Wing, 18-1 others.

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FORM FOCUS

ASKHAM BRYAN HAMERICAF BURGILE (92,460; 2m) (15 numers)

111-1234 HAM NEGSS 25 (D.F.S.) (BHOG Racing) M Hammand 6-12-0. R Gentley 65

1-9073 8900 SABLE 12 (GD.F.S.) (F Surey) F Statey T-11-10. B Statey 65

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8701-00 RDX SPARROW (2 (D.S.) (Brook) N Table 7-11-4. Mr A Banding (7) 97

8701-00 RDX SPARROW (2 (D.S.) (C States) J Fixed N Table 7-11-4. L Myer 85

PP-5302 EUROTWAST 20 (D.D.S.) (Disci Lanks Pub) S Machagan 7-11-4. G Les (3) 95

98611-2 MERRY MERAMAD 15 (D.S.) (Disci Lanks Pub) S Hottongan 7-11-4. A Datable 91

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2 (PP MAGNESHES) 17 (D.S.) (Miles J Compani 6-10-1. Milotand Brannam (8) —

BETTING: 7-2 Doctors, 4-1 Hass N'Eggs, 6-1 Bond Sable, 7-1 Our Robert, Tube, 10-1 Marry Massauld, 12-1 offers.

1998: CLAREST SPEECH 5-10-4 L Wyer (7-1) T Bashely 12 Am

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3.00 SICKLINGHALL HOVICES CHASE (£3,574: 8m 1f) (7 numers)

BETTING: 4-8 Cours Equery, 3-1 What's Yout Stary, 6-1 Cleate is Mary, Black Brook, 12-1 Others.

FORM FOCUS

y 2.30 ASKHAM BRYAN HANDICAP HURDLE (52,468; 2m) (13 runners)

Lord handbar: Alder 9-12, Metembert 9-5.

Research number. She figure term (F-lat).P-... stemes. F-latter is security as intent area, political up. <math>LI-... unscaled right, B-... brought. Soling on which home has view (F-line), good to soft, described, P-latter is none. Days since lest outing, F if for, (B-...) believe. V-line is none. Days since lest outing, F if for, (B-...) believe. V-line is none. V-line is none.

Racing receives a levy of around 1.5 per cent from all "The time may well have come to look at a different bets struck on the sport. But

tioned whether such a mechachief executive of the BHB, nism is in racing's long-term interests. Because of it, said yesterday. "Subject to the outcome of racing's internal racing's route to maximising its income, which is managed debate, it is reassuring to hear that the betting industry is by the Horserace Bening Levy willing in principle to take Board, is to maximise betting part in such discussions."

Although Bell conceded it might prove elusive to reach agreement on an alternative plan, he said: "It is not difficult to foresee serious problems when levy negotiations re-sume in 2000. If we do not try to reach out for something new, we will be locked into the same old arguments, the same thinking, which is bad for both bookmakers and racing.

"I believe we can agree a framework in the next 22 years, although at this stage, I do not have any alternative in mind. The Levy Board has been a stabilising influence throughout previous levy discussions and I envisage it playing an even greater role in any new mechanism. Any alternative to the levy

could only be introduced in the long-term and would require legislation to underpin it. However, the Government has indicated that it would embrace a new funding struc-ture if bookmakers and racing mutually agreed to its intro-



Sound Man, above, a leading fancy for the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham, has suffered a setback and will miss the race. Speaking at the Guinness Cheltenham Festival hunch in Dublin, Edward O'Grady, his trainer, said: "Sound Man was lame on his near-hind after exercise on Sunday morning. He has not been sound since and, having consulted

TAUNTON

1.50 TAURTON NATIONAL HURT NOVICES HURDLE

1-1 Delunchineration, 4-1 Strong Paladic, 6-1 Musior Plignes, 7-1 others

2.20 pitherster selling handicap hurdle (£1,931; 2m 1i) (16)

200 008 RED FHANTON 28 (V) 5 MeRc 5-40-0. W Means
210 (O-U) DERWITTS DANCER 7 (F.S.) 1 MeSCourn 10-10-0 D Birthysoint
211 2898 ALXESS MARROR 13 65 D.C.53 K Behap 8-16-7. R Genome,
212 2898 ALXESS MARROR 13 65 D.C.53 K Behap 8-16-7. R Genome,
213 ALS POOM STOCK 519 B Final 7-10-10-7. Mr J TEXTRE (T)
214 P.-00 MIXX THE YARK T3 (V) H Ollner 7-10-2. Mr J Rosel
215 646F POOMO KINGERT 12 C. Smart 7-10-0. S Upton
216 0840 THEM TRACES 21 F Jordan 6-10-0. S Wywne

1 Killing Time, 4-1 Almana, 6-1 Describation, 8-1 Describ Concer, 12-1 noin's Alman, 14-1 Va tim, Alice's Miner, 16-1 others.

6-4 Managinales Paths, 7-2 Place Screent, 6-1 Te Acto., 8-1 Little Julius, 10-1 pitters.

WOLVERHAMPTON

Our Newmarket Correspondent 2.10 Affied Academy, 3,10 CHM BOM BOM (nap), 3.40 Secret Aly.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

l-4 Daxing Flight, 5-1 July Jackson, Vertore Consect, 6-1 Permynelli, Isis Horda. I-1 Allieni Anademy, 10-1 Only Joch, 12-1 others

1 250- DRAGONLOY 69 (V.C.D.G) N Litercolor 49-2. D Griffichs (S) 1 2 1131 SENSE OF PROPERTY 9 (C.D.F.G) D Michaels 8-8-11

2.40 ARIES CLABIUMG STAKES (\$2,293-71) (7)

2.10 CAPRICORN MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-O; £3,371; 1m 100yd) (10 runners)

3.20 CROCOMBE MOVICES HURDLE

(\$2,638: 3m 110yd) (14)

2.50 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE

(Qualitier: £3,713: 3m) (14)

(Div I: £2,567; 2m 3i 110yd) (14 numers)

with the owners, we decided to withdraw him from the Queen Mother Champion Chase. There is no decision yet as to whether he will race again this season — we don't know enough about the injury." Ladbrokes now bets: 15-8 Klairon Davis, 5-2 Viking Flagship, 4-1 Strong Promise, 5-1 Ask Tom, 14-1 Arctic Kinsman, 16-1 Double Symphony, Martha's Son, 33-1 bar.

3.50 MITFORD SLADE CHALLENGE TROPHY

5-2 Start Mystery, 3-1 Tristmon's Irrage, 5-1 Storm Run, Almestic, 8-1 Colone Bluer, 14-1 Roll Again, 16-1 Offers.

7-2 North: Valley, 4-1 Lebster Cottage, 5-1 Reference, 7-1 Rovestor, 8-1 Office Duplett, 10-1 Northern Singer, Dannatus, 12-1 others.

| 17.7,903. 277 17 (10)
| D71 ABDED DIMENSION 16 (D,S) P Wellmorth 6-11-11 X Attgatus (7) 97 2 0000 PERSANA MINSTIC 60 (F) D Minate 5-11-70 W Mension = 11-12 U Satter (8) 97 4 084- SEVEO Z79 (D,S) R Bidds 6-11-1 V Satter (9) 5 2212 D TNAM 13 (B,CD,BF,S) M Pice 4-11-0 P Minate 13 5 2212 D TNAM 13 (B,CD,BF,S) M Pice 4-11-0 P Minate 13 6 -000 ER (DMG 16 V/D,D) S Melber 7-10-11 N Mann 13 7 4-63 STEEL GEN 65 (BF) P Rich 8-10-0 N Gentlement 15 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 15 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 15 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 15 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M Beached 6-10-0 N Gentlement 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-10-0 N GENTLEMENT 16 000- RUNC SYMBOL (1077 M BEACHED 6-1

9-4 Added Dimension, 7-2 D'Nam, 4-1 Handson, 7-1 Sieni Gam, 8-1 Erikum, 10-1 Sevan, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSFRS: J Noville, 3 ummers from 9 navers. 33.9%, N Babbage, 4 from 13, 30.8%; Miss H Roight, 7 from 28, 25.0%, N Henderson, B trees 34, 23.5%; M Pape, 44 from 192, 22.9%, P Hodde, 23 from 101. 22.8%

ACCKEYS: O Walsh, 3 womates from 8 ridge, 37.5%, A P NacCoy, 14 from 78, 17.5%, D Badgwater, 16 from 52, 17.4%; J R Rowmagh, 5 from 35, 17.1%, M Withamson, 8 from 47, 17.0%, G Toroney, 5 from 34, 14.7%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Taunton: 2.20 Mick. The Yank 3.20 Rony'm. Wolverhampton: 2.40 Miss Charlie.

5.20 BLACKDOWN HALLS HANDICAP HURBLE

4.50 SANHACOTT HOVICES HANDICAP CHASE

(£2,914: 2m 110yd) (14)

(£1,963. 2m 17) (10)

BASKETBALL

Backing of players puts Nemeth in good heart

By Nicholas Harling

THE availability of England's entire foreign-based contingent has come as a welcome tonic to Laszlo Nemeth, the beleaguered national coach. before their daunting task against Russia at the Spectrum Arena, Guildford,

tonight. Nine successive victories have already assured the Russians first place in Group B of the European championship semi-final round. The priority for England, in the fairly safe belief that a win is virtually impossible, is the prevention of the kind of rout that they suffered in Moscow a year ago. Had Steve Bucknall, John Amaechi, Spencer Dunkley. and Delme Herriman - who all missed that 114-59 defeat made their excuses and stayed away, another drubbing would have been on the cards.

It was to Nemeth's im-mense relief that, along with Ian Whyte, England's top scorer in Moscow, they all turned up. "Never in my career as a coach have I known such collective loyalty," he said. "Emotionally it has stunned me because they have all made public state-

ments of loyalty."

The only England player to pull out of the game tonight is Roger Huggins, whose wife went into labour with their first baby two weeks early. Huggins was immediately released, even though England's lone success in Group B has

one success in Group B has put Nemeth's job on the line.
"I'm only human. I had to let him go," the coach said, knowing that the 6ft 7in Sheffield Sharks forward would have been a useful asset against opponents expected to include seven world champ-ionship silver medal-winners.

ENGLAND: J Ameschi (Perushmukos, Gr., 8 Budinali (Irakis, Gr., 3 Dunidey (Besen-corr, Fr., D Herriman (Tresse, kt.) i Whyte (Porte, Parl, N Austin (London Toward), R Belser (Leopards), P Grainger (Manchester Geants), 1 McKinney (Shefilaid Shoris), J Swalne (Shethald Sheris), P Scendebury (Tharnes Valley Tigern, captien)

TODAY'S

FOOTBALL Klak-alt 7.30 unless stated FA Cup Derby v Coventry (7.45) ... Fifth-round replay Chalesa v Leicester (7.45) -A Carang P Southampton v Wirribledon ... Coca Cola Cun

Nationwide League Est division Bell's Souttish League Siscend tilvision Livingston v Brechin

East Stirling v Arbroath Tenneriis Scottish Cup

TOWN Y POLYWEIT

SMITHNOFF RISH LEAGUE: Firm Chimicon, Postponed: Ornagh v Larne WELSH CUP: Quarter-finel replay: Cembran v Holyweit.

WHISH CUP: Quarter-finel replay: Cembran v Holyweit.

WHISTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Pinet division: Tracen v Brishgion (7 45).

SCHEWERK DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Tracen v Brishgion (7 45).

PROSEEIGH MEDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bowers v Burthern Ramblers BANKES EREWERT LEAGUE: Premier division: Ludlow Town v Stoupport.

LEWSON SETTEMN COUNTIES LA.

GUE: Premier division: Soham v Holice Premier division: Ladow Town v Stoupport.

LEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Final U-vision: Eastlogh v Bournermouth NOTTHERN COUNTIES LA.

Fremier division: Dendry v Liversedge League Cup: Fourth round: Brigg Town v Glasshoughton Weltere SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRADERS: M Johnston, 44 witness from 196 consers, 22 4%, Lord Huttingdon, 48 from 62, 22 0%, J Protein, 9-from 46, 19.6%, B Screet, 6 from 31, 19 4%, M Bed, 9 from 47, 19.1%, Mrs. J Remoden, 3 from 16, 18.6%

Siens Viceorgi De Velouent, 5-1 Expressment, 6-1 Coune Mass, 16-1 Resty Bodge 12-1 Nearly Spiendid, 14-1 Kallins, 16-7 others. 4.20 taunton national hunt novices hurdle (Div R: £2,567: 2m 3l 110yd) (14)

(DW R: \$2,567: 2m 31 110yd) (14)
601 -3P1 ATAMETIC 20 (CDs.) C Poplem 5-11-11 — T Descende (3) (6)
602 -33-1 STORM RUN (75 (0) P Nicholis 7-11-11 — A P McCoy 63
603 -301 TRISTRANTS IMAGE 13 (C,0) N Hundrann 6-11-11
604 -65P BOCRYS DREAM 8 N Thurcan 6-11-1 — R Barcant
605 -65P BOCRYS DREAM 8 N Thurcan 6-11-1 — S Burrough
605 CS-0 COLONEL BLACER 66 (8) Miles H Kingri 5-11-1 — S Burrough
606 O MIT RIST S P Hobbs 5-11-1 — D Bridgivator 60
60 MIT RIST S P Hobbs 5-11-1 — B Torreo 9
609 O MIT RIST A COLOX 27 M Repost 6-14-1 — M Williamston 83
611 - P CAMILLA S LEGGLY 29 H Colo 6-10-13 — D Salphon 6612 STAR MYSTEPY 12 C Expetion 6-11-1 — M Williamston 83
613 - CLETON MATCH 512 B Matems 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6614 SOO PRE SPIRIT 22 M Lumpard 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6614 SOO PRE SPIRIT 22 M Lumpard 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6615 STAR MARCH 512 B Matems 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6614 SOO PRE SPIRIT 22 M Lumpard 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6615 STAR MARCH 512 B Matems 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6616 SOO PRE SPIRIT 22 M Lumpard 5-10-13 — D Salphon 6-10-16 — Colonel

FIXTURES

Stockport v Micidesbrouch (8 Q) Swindon v Birmingham (7.45)

Harriens Lenguer Premier division:
Newport AFG v Gravesend and Northinet (7 45). Additioned Mission: Va Terretori Southern division: Reshipy v St. Leonards, Farsham v Dartiond (7 45). Addition division: Reshipy v St. Leonards, Farsham v Dartiond (7 45). Addition division: Beshipy v St. Leonards, Farsham v Dartiond (7 45). Additional Continuation of Mission Leonards. First division: Farsham v Counternational Presidential Register v Stockstoniage PS. AVON INSURANCE COMMINATION: First division: Brighton v Orderd United (2 0); Cardill v Swansea (2 0); Ipsswich v Crystal Patace (at Porman Road, 7 15); Norwich v Brastol CV. PONTINS CONTRIAL LEAGUE Premisir division: Botton v Blackburn (7 0), Manchester United v Nottingham Forest (8) Bury, 7 (9). First division: Action Villa v Woverhampston (at Watsell FC, 7 (9); Port Vale v Blackpool (7 0), Preston v Hudderfield (9); Sacond division: Hudderfield (9); Sacond division: Hudderfield (9); Sacond division: Hudderfield (7 0); Sacond division: Hudderfield (7 0); Sacond division: Mission (7 0); League Cup; Group bru: Sauthorp: v Grimsby (7 0). Group four: Sauthorp: v Grimsby (7 0). Group four: Sauthorp: v Grimsby (7 0). Guertor v Absryshyth Postponed; First Town v Holywell.

then Town v Aberystwyn Prospor Town v Holywell SMIRNOFF INSH LEAGUE: Firm divisions

League Cugc Fourth round: Brigg Town /
Glasshoughton Welferro
SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier
League under-16 Trophy: Gloucastershre
V Odordshre (at Forest Glaen): West
Mutlands v Northighernshre (at Blakerhall)
Inter-County: Under-14: Heritordshre v
Berkshre (at Woodside Stadium): English
Snickers under-18 Trophy: Ardingly v
Miffield (2.30): Beaucherny, Lelcesterahre
v John Port, Derbyshrer (2.30): Reige
Danyers Cotlege, Graster Monchester v
Preston Coll (2.0): English Goodyear
under-18 Trophy: Knowlton, Clevedard v
Cardinal Heersen, West Yorkshre (3.30):
William Parker, Sussax v Holloway (2.0)
English Gifts under-16 Virnto Trophy:
Montgomery HS v Stretford GS (2.0)

RUGBY UNION Welsh League

First division Llanelli v Carditt (7 0) Tour match

Orrell v Mendoza (Arg) (7 15) CLUB MATCHES: Blackheath v Army (7 30); Cambridge University v Penguns CIS UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMP-IONSHIP: Mediands Brist: Warnershire v Notinghamshire, Uncoinshire and Derby-shire (at Rugby, 7:30)

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Europeen championship: England v Russia (at Guildford Spectrum, 7.45)



Fundament :

R 0171 481 4000

3.30 HOECHST ROUSSEL PANACUR EBF MARES HOVICES HURDLE (\$2,985: 2m 4l 110yd) (9 nunners)

DEST-HI DAKY DAYS 22 (D.E.S.) (San Pening Cuto): H Jebanen 7-11-7. A 8 Strillo DAD112 SPRITZET 18 (6) (No. 9 Happel J Figuracial 5-11-0. P Cachery BE 10-10-12 SPRITZET 18 (6) (No. 9 Happel J Figuracial 5-11-0. B Gratton (5) 7 G-2005 CHERNY DET 15 (6) Digys): P Sentent 6-10-7. B Gratton (5) 7 G-2005 CHERNY DET 15 (6) Digys): P Sentent 6-10-7. J Datonic 90 SMC LEPPY LOUISE 22 (D Williamson) Mes 14 Reveloy 5-10-7. J Datonic 90 SMC LEPPY LOUISE 22 (D Williamson) Mes 14 Reveloy 5-10-7. D Bourley - 10-0-0 PHAPRAMERING 37 J Membry): Mes 14 Reveloy 5-10-7. Mr 5 Santon 0 SANTA BARBARA 75 JJ Thompson) C Singl 6-10-7. R 6 Santon 0 SANTA BARBARA 75 JJ Thompson) C Singl 6-10-7. R 6 Santon THUNDERER 1.50 Defenditiermaim. 2.20 Alice's Minor. 2.50 Fontrot Romac. 3.20 Mountain Path. 3.50 Kettles. 4.20 Star Mystery. 4.50 Northern Singer, 5.20 Handson. Carl Evans: 3.50 KidBes. BETYME: 11-4 Spritter, 7-2 Date; Days, 5-7 Charry Ost, 5-1 Lippy Lexine, 8-1 Factory Lise, Reine A Doller, 10-1 Post A Box, 12-1 others, GOING: GOOD TO SOFT TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

-1980: MESS DETERMET 6-10-11 R. Lehamon (10-11 last D Micholaun 16 mm FORM FOCUS

DARSY DAYS has LRPY LOUISE (The Mans vill)
10th in 11-curror cortice herite at Carlete (town)
10th in 11-curror cortice herite at Carlete (town)
110yd, solt), SPRITZER beat Take Cover 171 in 18currors cortice herite at Carletek (2m 3, pund) in
plessificate start, CHERRY DEE should 271 Start
10 to Military Academy in solvine herite at lay (2m
8, soit), FARTASY LINE 27(4) 4th oil 15 to Equity's
8, soit), FARTASY LINE 27(4) 4th oil 15 to Equity's
8 selection: SPRITZER (map)

4.00 FAST KESWICK HANDICAP CHASE (24.403: 2m 41 110xi) (6 junters)

Long belieben: Artic Macs 9-12, Sator Jim 9-11.

1990: EASBY JOKER'S-10-6 F Moon (2-1) S Katilood 6 cm FORM FOCUS

MASTER BOSTOM & 7th at 21 for Jon White in bandfron chare at Adaptine Chris 61, peedly was SAL-Master Ratten (2th 45, pool). ARTIC WRIGS best CAL July (2th batter of the first of the firs nu creat care see of 4 to 100 Plass in passings | Falsablan (See 1104, seed), 54 class at Sandonn (See 41 104, seed), 54 class in the seed of the seed

4.30 HELMSLEY MOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (\$4.305; 2m) (4 rumers) 522112 BOLD BOSS 11 (D.E.S) (1 Roboun 8 Mean 8-11-10 8 Storey 9 412221 MARRUE MAN 22 (D.E.S) (0 Level) M Hazznard 7-10-7 R Sanday 9 OYPDIFF MURINAE FORTE 12 (BF.C.S) LI Acted J Alema 7-10-5 M Michaely 9 AN-44 CROSSROT 11 (D.F.E.S) (N Michaelol N Michaelol N Michaelol R Johnson 8

Line building: Crosslet P-11. NETTING: 19-11 Bold Boss, 3-1 Marble Max, 7-2 Montaile Forte, 6-1 Crowted. 1968: CLAMPRIAN CHALLENGE 7-12-0 L Wyer (11-4) T Eminty 5 no. FORM FOCUS

BOLD BOSS best Friendly Kinghi Ri in 8-normal nodels chase at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good) on pesulfamba region positions and position of the pesulfamba region (2m 110yd, good) on pesulfamba region (2m 110yd, good) on pesulfamba region (2m 110yd, good). CRUSSFOT, field effort, beat Cover Position Franchises at Castles (2m, good to solib with NormALE (1974) (2m 110yd, good).

(2m 110yd, good).

(2m 110yd, good).

5.00 MICKLETHWAITE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,793: 2m 4i 110yd) (9 runners)

Long familicap: Duolys Gorse 9-13, Boston Man 9-13. BETTRIG: 7-2 Boston Man. 4-1 Cambys Sorse, 9-2 Oxide Oi Paris, 6-1 All Co., 7-1 Clemesters. 10-1 others. 1990; TRUMP 7-11-0 D Parker (14-1) C Pinter 10 cm FORM FOCUS

JOCKS CROSS had Tathyragger St to 4-minor bandicap hardle at Remarkle (2m. 2f 110ml, pand to bandicap hardle at Remarkle (2m. 2g nod). Hadde in handicap hardle at Remarkle (2m. 4g nod). HARDOT has Accord that 6f in chicknip hardle at Special (2m. 8g nod) to firm) no principinate start, Aug 96 CLARESWINN best Dencetifyrouting St in Selection; DAMEYS GORSE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

30.0 29.3 27.3 23.3 20.0 27 177 20 164 95 P Cartery P Histon A Johnson L Wyer A Maguin M Tomphon D Michaelon Mass M Revelop G Richards J Gifford 10 50 176 120 20 The meeting at Plumpton on Friday is under threat because

of waterlogging. There is an inspection today at 3.30pm to

CROWN EQUERRY heat Santa Concento 21 in 8-conner nower chase at Carliste (3m, good to soft). CREDO IS KING best Wiskey Worder 1941 in 10-mainter nowice chase at Concestor Can Bit (poor). WHAT'S YOUR STORY 7941 3rd of 13 to Garerat THE SULES HOLLY STEED AND THE METINGS Leicester Going: good with soft and heavy patches

Conf. good with soil and many pear as 2.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Red Branch (1 Cufloty, 4-1); 2, Scorescheet (3-1 fav); 3, Hangover (8-1), 13 zen. Sh hd, 111, J King-Tote £4.80; £1.80, £7.60, £2.30 DF: 210.40 Toto £54.00, CSF £15.26. Tricast: \$24.45. 27.89. 4.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Wild West Wind (J Culloty, 11-8): 2, Merchedings (4-6 tav), 3, Germina's Wager (25-1), 5 ran. KJ, dist. Miss H Knight, Tote: £2.50; £1.10, £1.40. DF: £1.50, CSF: £2.53 294 45. 2.40 (3m ch) 1, Farney Glen (A Maguire, 3-1); 2, Respers Rock (9-1); 3, Sampson (5-4 fav) 8 ran. 51, 15, J J O'Neal, Totar 5-4 20; 51-10, 53-10, 61-10, DF, 517-50, CSF 208-40, Tricket, 646-25.

RACELINE W'HAMPTON 103 203 120 220

Armstrong (D Forti, 11-8 tav), 2, Juleit Jones (3-1); 3, Dollinos (16-1), 7 ren. 8, dist. G McCourt, Tote: £2.40; £2.10, £2.60. DF £5,70. CSF: £3.06.
3-40 (3m chr) 1, Masster Toby (C Llewellyn, 8-1); 2, Lively (hight (11-4 ji-fav); 3, Wino Is Equiname (11-4 ji-fav); 13 ren. 1, 131. N revision-Devies. Tote: £8.10; £1.80, £1.80, £1.80. CSF: £7.83.
4-10 (2m 4) 110 at chi 1, Wild West Wind

Placepot £9.50. Quadpot £3.50.

E14.19.
3.20 (2m hdie) 1, Silver Mint (P Niven, 9-2); 2, Churriny's Sege (7-1), 3, Arthur Bee (9-1) Klerchem 7-2 (sw. 13 ran. 4, 104 km s Ni Reveley, Totar 52 70; 52.10, 52.10, 54.10. DF: 521.90, Trio: 5222.40, CSF 535.83, Thoust 5285.75. Bought in 3,800 grs.

4.20 (2m ct) 1, Weaver George (M Moloney, 15-8 tav); 2, Moss Pageant (100-1), 3, Newhell Prince (5-1) 8 ran. 7, 6; W Storey, Tota: £3.20; £2.50, £17.60 DF: £29.30 CSF; £48.58. DF: C29.30 CSF: 548 58.
4.50 (2m list uses) 1, Spirit Of Steet (R. McCarthy, 7-1); 2, First Light (11-4); 3, Jennis's Prospect (11-2). (Thundespoint 5-2 liev. 12 ran. NP: Buster Two. 41, 16; 17 rate. Tota: E4 30; E2 40, E1 60, E2 50. DF: C29 00. Trio: C125.70 (per won; pool of 560.72 cernical between the 450 at Teurison today) CSF: C25.39.

Lingfield Park 2.00 (1m 4) 1, Amadour (A McCarthy, 7-2), 2, Scojama (6-5 tay); 3, Squee's Occasion (11-4), 5 (an. 1 N), 4l. P Mitchall, Toter £5.80, £5.80, £1.00. DF: £5.00. CSF: £7.41 2.30 (7) 1. Greenest (D Holland, 5-4 fav), 2. Lill Boy (1) 4); 3. La Modiste (3-1) 5 ran 2l. 3l. Mass G Kellemay, Tota: £1 70; £1.40, td.10 DF 22.80, CSF 64.68. 3.00 (1m 2l) 1, Effectual (D Holland, 4-6 few); 2, Stellar Line (13-8); 3, Sciunds Legal (10-1) 5 ran 9, 151 Mass C Kelleway Tote. 22.00; £1 10, £7.40. DF: £1 40 CSF: £1 58. 3.30 (1m) 1, Top Sheti (D Holland, 100-30). 2. Hever Goll Charger (11-8), 3, Premier (6-5 fav), 3 ren. Nk, 17l, C Brittain Tota 23.80, DF, 28.10, CSF E7 32.

A.00 (Im 2) 1, hever Golf Engle (S Sanders, 12-1), 2, Zehld (4-1); 3, Claque [14-1], Czama 2-1 fav. 10 fan 1%1, 4/ 2 Nauchton, Tote. C12 70, 55.80, C1.20, 52.20 DF 522.60 Tric, C45.40 CSF: 4.30 (6) 1, Forgotten Times (N Carlisle, 2-1 ton), 2, Mystery Matthias (5-1), 3, Tactry-cardia (5-1) 6 sen %), 2%; T Jones, Tole; 92.30; \$1.20, 12.40 DF, \$4.30 CSF, \$3.40.

8-4 Sance Of Primary, 7-2 Japan Bay, 4-1 Datoyab, 7-1 Deagonpy, 12-1 Datoyab Marjon, Micr. Charles, 3-1 Secul S. Secul. 3.10 TAURUS CONDITIONS STAKES

Placemont: £31.40. Cuandroot: £16.20. Essa Defined Festure, 11-10 Clm Scm Born, 8-1 Feet Buildion

3.40 LEO HANDICAP (£4,959: 1m 11 79yd) (8) 1 -313 SOUTH EASTERN FRED 21 (CO.F.G) M Collingridge 5-10-0

2 100- NEW CENTURY 25.1 (F) D Wichrolt 5-9-13 ... Am. Green 5
3 -634 PATTER MOSTER 21 (6.5) John A Harris 8-9-8 ... 5 Sanders 2
4 310- 8590 WANY 209 (F) T Caldwell 5-9-5 ... Colorer 1
5 1022 SECOND COLORES 7 (CD.F.6) M Pop 7-9-4 ... 0 Harrison 3
6 60-2 SECRET ALY 8 (C.F.6) C Britain 7-9-1 ... 0 Harrison 3
7 25-1 HSL FARM DANCER 28 (C.F.6) W Brisborne 6-9-0 ... Russes (5) 7 2.10 Pennywell. 2.40 Jigsaw Boy. 3.10 Clm Born Born. 3.40 Secret Aly. 4.10 Enchantica. 4.40 Calendula. 8 1510 THREE ARCH BRIDGE 5 (B,D.F,S) M Journaline 5-8-9 D Mackeyons 8

4.10 AQUARIUS SELLING HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £2,085: 5f) (7)

7-4 Enchantica, 7-2 Ma Vielle Posque S-1 Will To Win, 6-1 Chaping, 7-1 Seretse s Nephew, 10-1 College Princess, 12-1 Whitper Low

4.40 GEMINI FILLIES HANDICAP (£2,700: 1m 4l) (6)

-4 Calendula, 3-1 Moso Lady, 9-2 Zacarnon, 6-1 Tari, Harlsquin Walk, 8-1

JOCKEYS M Rivemer. 5 weeners from 27 rides, 18:5%; A Lappin. 8 from 49, 16:3%, R Madlen, 3 from 19, 16:6%, D Holland, 12 from 82, 14:6%, E Caster. 30 from 212, 14:2%, Alon Gravers, 7 from 52, 13:5%; D Hollands, 19 from 150, 12:7%



Catterick Bridge. Going: good to soft, soft in places George Spoto 9 State and Paragraph of L. Sto (2m Index) 1, Cumbrisin Masterio (L. Weer, 6-1); 2, Georgel Song (11-4 Sex); 3, Fire On Ice (4-1), 14 ran 8t, 7t, T Eastenby, Tolker 55.30; 51.50, 51.50, 52.50, 07: 214.00, Trice 27.50, CSF: 522.44. £14.00. Trio: £7.50. CSF: £22.44.

2.20 (2m hote) 1, First in The Field (S Heworth 25-1); 2, Lumbeck Lady (6-1); 3, Decent Penny (33-1) Best of Al 5-1 tav. 15 ran. 2, 21, N Machan. Tota: £52.00; £5.90, £3.20, £4.30. DF: £148.70. Trio. not won (pool of £138.11 carried forward 4.50 at

| Taumton today). CSF 2163.08 Tricast. | 24,576.60. 2.50 (2m.3f ch) 1, Twin Falls (J Callaghan, 8-1); 2, Roberty Lea (Evens fav), 3, (Riberty Boy (8-1) 7 ran, 3, 131, 6 Moore, Tota: 29.60; 21.90, 21.40, DF, 24.00, CSF: 214.19,

5.00 (Im 20 1, Captain's Day (R Muller, 10.1); 2, Belsons Daughler (5-1), 3, Hornestly (10-1), Fabulous Melot 4 i p-lav 10 ran 61, 21 H Collegridge, Toke (5-50; 23 90, 52 00, 52 70 DF: \$52.30, Trio: £127.80. CSF: \$56 76. Jackpot: not wen jood of \$22,588.56 carried forward to Taunton today).
Placapot: \$91.80. Quadpot: \$14.30.

FOOTBALL

Juninho leaves problem for Middlesbrough

By DAVID MADDOCK AND RICHARD HOBSON

AS Stockport County prepared yesterday for the first leg of their Coca-Cola Cup semi-final against Middlesbrough, their Edgeley Park pitch lay in pieces, with the groundsman struggling to lay new turf over large areas previously waterlogged

Nevertheless, the pitch will be ready in time for the game tonight - Stockport have offered assurances that, even if it rains, the match will go ahead after it was postponed because of a deluge a week ago -- and it is Middlesbrough, of the FA Carling Premiership, who themselves worrying about somehow putting patch-work pieces together. In their case, however, absentecism is

Whyte, Phil Whelan, Steve Vickers and Nigel Pearson are all doubtful with injuries. while, worse still, Juninho, the opted for international duty rather than the attractions of battling a howling gale and a pumped-up Nationwide League second division side on a wet Wednesday night. Juninho will play half a game for his country against Poland in Rio de Janeiro and even the prospect of a big semi-final could not persuade him to stay

Stockport, predictably enough for underdogs, do not Brazil midfield player, has problems, but they do have

Southampton likely to be stalked by Fear

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

WIMBLEDON, whose tigerish qualities have been in markably successful season. are likely to have Fear in their heart when they run out at The Dell tonight for an FA Carling Premiership match against Southampton.

There will be no mellowing of their traditional tenacity. injured Vinnie Jones's com-bative midfield talents with those of Peter Fear. The 23year-old Londoner, who came on as a substitute for Oyvind Leonhardsen — another absentee tonight - in the victory over Arsenal on Sunday, is likely to make only his sev-

enth start of the season. Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said. "He has no fear. And he's another example of the squad we are building. It has got to the

forgotton man for my country," he said. "I was overlooked so many times that it was becoming very concerning. I am happy at Middlesbrough, but playing for my country means so much to me, far more than anything else in toothall. The Brazil coach is already thinking about his squad for the World Cup and I want to make sure I am in

have similar international

people into the side and drop

others out but still have confi-

dence that everybody will do

their job."
Wimbledon are 12 points
behind Manchester United.

the leaders, in the Premier-

ship but have three games in

high in the table."

Heskey — through suspen-sion. All four are available Ruud Gullit [the Cheisea player-manager] mentioned after the first game that he thought we had been lucky," O'Neill said, "I couldn't recall them peppering our goal, but I retorted that if that was what he thought, then I would send our first team for the replay

several injury doubts before

what is the biggest game in their history. Mike Flynn, the

captain, Alun Armstrong and

Scan Connelly are all facing

Martin O'Neili will stay

true to his word tonight when

he sends out his "first team"

for Leicester City's FA Cup

fifth-round replay against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

The Leicester manager did nothing yesterday during his routine, pre-match press con-

ference to quell the acrimony that followed the 2-2 draw in

the original tie at Filbert

ered from 2-0 down despite

missing four leading players

— Neil Lennon, Muzzy Izzet,

Matt Elliott and Emile

"It has clearly made an mpact because last Saturday Mark Hughes [the Chelsea striker mentioned this on television and made it sound as though we had been the aggressor initially. I am sure that our lads will be fired up and I have to say that I think we have a definite chance of winning the game."
O'Neili's most difficult

and try to give them a better

hand. They are also in the semi-finals of the Cocs-Cols problem tonight will be in accommodating lan Mar-shall, who scored a hat-trick Cup and last eight of the FA Kinnear said: "We've got to focus on the league and forget against Derby County in the Premiership last Saturday. with Heskey, the prodigiously the cups for a while. Europe next season is still our main talented young striker, eligible aim and it would be marvelagain. Chelsea have a doubt over Kevin Hitchcock, the lous to achieve it by finishing gozikeeper, who has a shoul-Southampton, whose rele-

gation plight became even Leicester and Chelsea have ore serious after they lost a been cleared by the Football Association after an investiga-tion into lighting that broke two-goal lead against Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday out during the original tie at Filbert Street, which led to ten and slipped to a 3-2 defeat, could recall Matthew Oakley and Robbie Slater in midfield.



Point duty: Ogrizovic, veteran of Coventry City's 1987 FA Cup Final win, directs traffic around his goal. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Ogrizovic still a force for boys in sky blue

highest-profile postings in the areas where trouble was expected. Pew arms of the law were longer than those of PC Steve Ogrizovic.

هِ كَذَا مِن رِلامِل

Twenty years on, Ogrizovic finds himself repelling striknight drunks in Nottingham city centre. He does so with no less vigour and a clear-up rate that would be the envy of most modern police forces. If Coventry City win the FA Cup this season, then

passage to success. Coventry won the tie 2-1 and face Derby County at the Baseball Ground tonight, with a home quarter-linal against Mid-dlesbrough waiting. Richard Hobson meets a goalkeeper with ambitions to earn a return visit to the scene of the finest hour of his career

competition in years and Coventry supporters are inevitably thinking back to 1987, when their side beat Tottenham Hotspur 3-2 after extra time at Wembley.
Ogrizovic and Brian Bor-

rows are the only survivors from that team still with the club and, while Ogrizovic is rejuctant to reflect on the biggest day of his career, progress this season dictates that people are demanding

time because we had never

"The Premier League sides still in the draw will think they will have for many years because of the teams who have been knocked out. All of the sides will be fired up that little bit more and, whoever wins, I think there will be

When pressed on the matter, Ogrizovic pointed to three areas where Covenity scored highly in 1987. He believes John Sillett and George Curtis instilled the best team spirit he has known, that the sidė was perfectly balanced and that the majority of

If there were "no stars" then, the side is packed with expensive signings now. In-deed, individually, Ogrizovic believes the squad must be the strongest in the history of the club. Against that, a league position of fifth from

an appearance.
The funny thing is that

thing remains awry. Coventry have waited until the final day of the season to since Ogrizovic arrived from Shrewsbury Town in 1984 and he acknowledged that the present campaign is fol-lowing a familiar pattern. "At the end of the season,

when you have won to stay up, it is a huge buzz. Then you cast your mind back to worry and say 'never again'.

Ogrizovic deserves a quiet-er life in the winter of his career. He is 40 in September in 1977. I was told I could go and over Christmas he eclipsed the club record of 542 out," he said. "I do not appearances held by Curtis, a remarkable feat considering

at Liverpool and rarely made

although Ray kept me out, it is partly thanks to him that I am still playing now."
Ogrizovic said. "That generation of goalkeepers - you can look at Joe Corrigan, Phil Parkes and Pat Jennings as well — shows that it was possible to play into your late thirties at least. It is interesting to see how few of the top clubs have young goalkeepers nowadays because man-

He is not sure how he will utilise his football skills and knowledge when he finally retires. There is one avenue away from the game that remains open. "When I left the force, to join Chesterfield suppose they realised I would be off the beat for this

Ferguson rules out Suker move

By Our Sports Staff

DAVOR SUKER, the Croatia international, travelled back to Spain last night after talks with Arsenal but without making contact with Manchester United. Suker will leave Real Madrid at the end of the season and he has indicated that he will definitely be coming to England The champions, though,

appear out of the running after Alex Ferguson, the United manager, ruled out a possible move. Chelsea could rival Arsenal for his signature. to clear his name after allega-

Peter Schmeichel, desperate tions that his feud with Ian Wright that flared in Manchester United's match at Highbury last week was sparked by a racial insult aimed at Wright when United entertained Arsenal at Old Trafford in November, is threatening to go to court.

The claims are still being investigated by the police, but Maurice Watkins, the Manchester United director and solicitor, said: "Reports that Peter is taking legal advice are true, but other than to confirm that I don't want to make any further comment."

John Ebbrell, the Everton midfield player, is poised to be reunited with Howard Kendall, his former manager at Goodison Park. Kendall, now in charge at Sheffield United. has made a bid of £1 million for the former England B and Under-21 international, Jonathan O'Connor, the England Under-21 player, has committed his future to Everton by signing a three-year contract.

Kyle Lightbourne, the Walsall forward, rejected the offer of a long-term contract with the Nationwide League second division side yesterday, opening the way for a renewed bid from Coventry City. The Bermuda international is keen to play in the FA Carling Premiership. Walsali have already turned down an offer of £400,000 from Coventry.

Mick Jones will be offered the post of Plymouth Argyle manager later this week Jones has been caretakermanager since Neil Warnock was sacked three weeks ago.

Pearce pledges to keep tight control on spending targets

THE new owners of Nottingham Forest confirmed yesterday that Stuart Pearce will remain as player-manager of the club for the rest of the season. The announcement the same thing." came after a 90-minute meet-Possible targets include ing between Pearce and Irving Scholar, the former Tottenham Hotspur chairman who has become a football consultant at the City Ground after taking a leading tole in Bridgford plc, whose takeover

With £16 million of Bridgford's money injected into the club. Pearce told Scholar about the players he would like to sign before the transfer deadline next month. However, while intimating that his priority is to buy a topclass striker. Pearce said that he would not be held to ransom because of the huge

bid was accepted by shareholders on Monday.

funds at his disposal. There are players I would like to sign but we have a valuation on them and we are not going to pay silly money." Pearce said. "We need to score goals but I think that any manager of a side near the bottom of the table would say

Pierre van Hooijdonk, who is unsettled at Celtic, and Dean Holdsworth, who has lost his first-team place at Wim-



Forest are third from botsom of the FA Carling Premiership, though Pearce felt a sense of relief during training yesterday that the takeover had been resolved. "The players did not want it to be a distraction but I hope we can take something positive now there is stability here."

Pearce will reconsider his own position at the end of the season. If he remains in charge, the club is likely to appoint a managing director to absorb some of the workload, "I am the first to say I don't want to stay in the office nine-to-five and I won't change that view," he said. "But, I'll say it again: whatever is going to be for the benefit of this club, I am happy to go

The short-term aim is to stay in the Premiership. Mr Scholar is happy for me to carry on and take the club forward. In the summer we can take stock and build a

England must stay at home

By JOHN GOODBODY

FIFA, the world governing body of football, yesterday ruled out proposals by the British Government to use the lavish new stadiums in Scotland and Wales in England's bid to stage the 2006 World

Cup.
The Football Association has been hesitating over whether its candidature would be boosted by staging games at the 75,000-seat Car-diff Arms Park and grounds in Glasgow, Edinburgh and possibly Belfast, England already has ample facilities that it used for the European championship.

However, Keith Cooper, the Fifa spokesman, said yester-day: "Our rules state that bids come from one untional association and by implication all the venues for the tournmuent would come from that courtry. To use facilities in another country would not conform to

John Major has always talked of the bid as a "UK" one. However, this is partly for political reasons, given the Government's desire to emphasise the cohesion of the United Kingdom.

However, it has also been because, by 1999, Cardiff will have a rebuilt national stadium. In Scotland, Murrayfield in Edinburgh holds 60,000, Celtic Park will soon house 60,000, ibrox 48,000 and Hampden Park 50,000. Jim Farry, the chief execu-

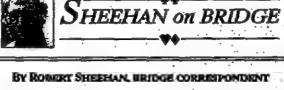
tive of the Scottish Football Association, spoke to the Prime Minister earlier this month and said later. "He reinforced our view that the Government was supportive of a World Cup bid involving stadiums throughout Britain." The bome nations had accepted that only England would qualify automatically

However, the Football As-

sociation has been loath to include venues outside England for two reasons. First, it would give the impression that England, by itself, would not be able to stage the 32-oation tournament. The entunds used an suc

cessfully for Euro '96, which made Ucfa, the European governing body, a record profit of more than 560 milion would again form the nucleus of facilities, but Wembicy is also being completely rebuilt to make it the most modern venue in Europe. Second, the football associ-

ations of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are concerned for political sports reasons not to blur the historic separate identities in football of the loar countries Any move towards using facilities in each other's countries might be seen as being the first step towards a unity



As declarer I had all the clues on this hand, from the match tween King (the eventual winner) and Armstrong in the trials for the 1996-97 English team. I came to the wrong conclusion.

Game all

4AQ2 **7J7542** +16 4109 *Q0883 OAK17 PAQ64 4J376543 PAG

East's 2 NT asked West to bid his better minor. Bizarre to use this deservedly little-known convention on a hand only 4-4 in the minors.

East won the first diamond with the king. What does this tell declarer about the layout of the diamond honours? It is quite revealing. As West would not underlead the ace of diamonds. East is marked with the ace. If East held AKQ, he would win with the queez. And if West held QJz. he would lead the queen. So, if the defenders are not false carding. West has the queen of diamonds and East the ace,

king and jack.
At trick two East switched to the seven of clubs; West took the king of clubs with the ace and continued diamonds. I ruffed in dummy and played the tack of clubs, throwing my third diamond - a loser-onloser play. That way I could

ruff any further diamond lead in hand and keep alive the spade finesse. I could later throw my beart on the estab-

West took the queen of clubs and led the king of hearts. Now how should I play the spades? West has shown up with 11 points - the king of hearts, the queen of diamonds and ace and queen of clubs. Does he have the king of

spades? Foolishly thinking Bast might try for game with the king of spades (holding 1). points opposite a possible [4], [finessed the spade. Obviously I should have played to drop the king - how can East be doubling Four Spades with just the ace and king of diamonds? ...

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

By Philip Howard

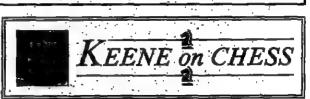
SHAWNEE a. Playwright's knee b. A Jeaflet c. An Indian TORRIDONIAN

a. A trochaic metre

b. Sentish rocks

WOOSTER a. To frolic vacuously b. A cock with a lisp ... c. An amorous young man SUNYATA a. Void b. Pickled beef

c. A trainee samurai



27 Road

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHRES COMPRESSIONDENT

Jersey International Andrew Webster scored a huge success in the Deloitte & Touche Jersey International when he captured sole first prize ahead of three grandmasters, including the reigning British champion. Scores at the top were: Webster 6; Hodgson and Bogdan Lalic 5'2; Simons, Smallbone and reigning British champion Chris Ward 5. Britain's top woman player, Susan Lalic, was among those on 412.

The following game demon-strates Webster's clear blend of strategic preparation and tactical aggression. After a slow opening. White engineers a sudden and dramatic breakthrough on the !7 square.

White Webster Riack: Okosieme Jersey. February 1997 **English Opening**

2 NB 5 Ba3 7 Nb:12 12 NM 15 #3 6 21 BD4 Ngx7 Ob6 Diagram of final position

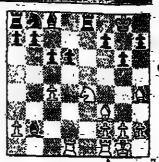
Reb3 Res

London v Beijing starts A match between teams from London and Beijing started yesterday and runs until Sunday. Grandmasters Chris Ward, Neil McDonald and Keith Arkell are taking on a team of Chinese grandmasters from Beijing, Wang Zili, Ye Jiangchuan and Peng Xaomin. The venue is the London College of Traditional Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, Finchley, London, and rounds are taking place from llam to 6pm. Spectators to this unusual event are welcome, further details from the organisers on 0181-202 0982 Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing). Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Suba - Watson, Watson, Farley and Williams, London 1989. White has sacrificed two pawns to gain a lead in development. How did he now recoup on his invest-



cut to three THE . le in ter Ger

SPORTS POLITICE

Options for

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ATHLETICS

Olympics to redefine the worth of gold

BY DAVID POWELL ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

INCREASED lobbying for the Olympic Games to introduce prize-money is inevitable after the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) yesterday raised the financial stakes for competitors at its world championships.

Having announced last year that prize-money would be paid for the first time at the 1997 indoor and outdoor world championships, the IAAF has added world record incentive payments double those offered Weltklasse Zurich, the wealthiest grand prix meeting.

For a world record at the outdoor championships in Athens this summer, athletes will be paid \$100,000 (about £60,000), on top of \$60,000 for winning. At the indoor championships in Paris next month, there is a \$50,000 world record bonus and \$50,000 for winning. The World Cup will pay \$100,000 for a world record and \$50,000 for a victory.

Should more than one athlete in the same event break a record, only the best performance will be eligible. Relay teams setting a record will share a sum equal to that paid for an individual record. Where an event is included for the first time, such as the women's pole vault in Paris, prizes will be reduced by 50 per cent and by 25 per cent on the second occasion.

One immediate beneficiary is likely to be Wilson Kipketer. the Kenyan-born Dane, whose form outdoors last year over 800 metres suggests that he should break Paul Ereng's indoor mark in Paris. Losers may include the grand-prix promoters, as athletes save their records for the world championships and World Cup, a reversal of the 1995 world championships, when Moses Kiptanui eased down towards the end of his steeple chase victory to improve his chances of a world record bonus in Zurich five days

Athletes have been moving there is room to define territo-with quickening pace from the ry on the vest for everybody?

poor working classes of professional sport towards upper middle class and, in some cases, the exceptionally rich. Michael Johnson, having signed a \$12 million endorsement deal with Nike after his Olympic 200/400 metres double, is hardly likely to dwell on the thought that, had the IAAF prize structure applied in At-lanta, he would have carned \$220,000.

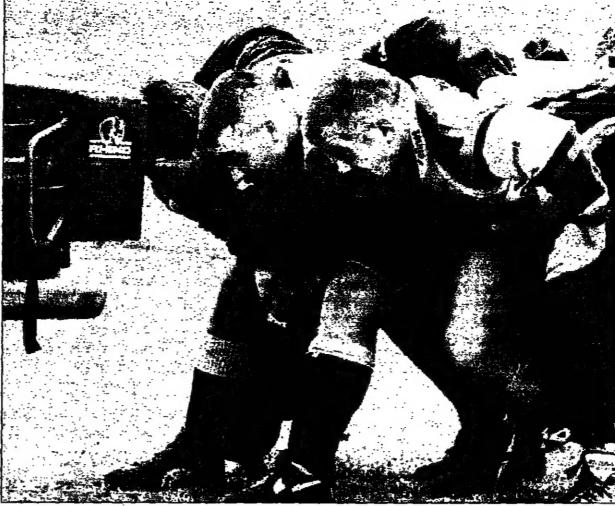
That is not to say that the Olympics can necessarily continue to ignore paying the performers who help to build its cash mountain. "Traditionally, the sport works on two levels for the athlete," Mike Whittingham, a prominent British agent, said. "One is the recognition of an Olympic medal being greater than any other medal, but, following on from that, one's commercial value is usually based around the Olympics.

That balance could change because, if the sport's manufacturers come out and say next year that the days are gone where we are going to offer substantial packages, and those packages were based on performances at the Olympics, why do [compete in] the Olympic Games?

Whittingham's concern that sportswear companies may reduce endorsement contracts to athletes is based on a move within the IAAF to halve the permitted size of logo that an athlete may display on his or

The power politics at work seem to be raising the endorse-ment value of the bib to the IAAF by reducing the logos on the vest, a prime television site. "If that happens, sports manufacturers are likely to penalise athletes in their individual endorsements." Whittingham said.
"The IAAF has been ex-

tremely innovative by introducing prize-money for positions and now prizemoney for records. Surely



Men against machine at the England practice yesterday as the front row prepare for a big push against France

South Africa overlook Mallett

BY DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHATEVER preconceptions the management of the British Isles tour party to South Africa this summer may have had could prove invalid after the appointment yesterday of Carel du Plessis as coach to the Springboks. The former Western Province wing, who succeeds the disgraced André Markgraaff, has no formal coaching qualifications and is seen by some pundits as a political appointment.

Du Plessis, 36, no relation to the former national manager, Mornè du Plessis, made 12 international appearances during South Africa's wilderness years before retiring in 1989 to concentrate on his business interests in Cape Town. He returned to the rugby arena only last year as tactical adviser to Markgraaff during the tour of Argentina. France and Wales.

When Markgraaff was forced to resign last week after. the publication of racist comments he made in a telephone conversation, it was widely expected that Nic Mallett . brawl that disfigured their pool game in Johannesburg last July. Kern Yates, the Leeds flanker, will lead an England XV showing two survivors from that game, which England lost 36-9, in Matt Jones and Jonathan

The withdrawal of Ireland and Scotland from this level has led to an abbreviated season for England, whose other games will be against the Welsh Students at Ponty-

Pienaar: hopes of recall

nents from either Spain or Portugal. Nevertheless, the student management is optimistic that, even allowing for the restrictions created by under-21 internationals taking place at the same time, it can continue to field teams of high quality. It points to the equivalent match four years ago, when England included Tim Stimpson and Andy Gomarsall, who will both be in the senior side at Twicken-

ham on Saturday. Murray Driver, a New Zealander who can prop on both sides of the scrum, has joined Sale, who are determined to be numbered among England's top four clubs. Driver, 24, has played for Waikato, the province with which John Mitchell was associated before becoming Sale's influential player-

ENGLAND STUDENTS: J Fablen (Exeles), B Johnson (RMC Strivenham). M Tetlow (Rotthumbne), M Denney (Bristol), W Newman (Exelen: M Jongs (Moton), B Hervey (Brune): M Long (Motertumbne), J Dickin (Exeler), R Faiers (Wolverhampon), J R Earnshaw (Combinge). D Zakoman (Brune), M MBs (Shettleid Hallam), K Vales, Grandon, Landan), R Beente (Mothertumbra), M MBs (Shettleid Hallam), K Vales, Grandon).

TENNIS

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Rusedski's service fails him on slow court

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

GREG RUSEDSKI, the Great Britain No 2, was beaten 6-4, 6-2 by Thomas Johansson, of Sweden, in the first round of the Advanta Championships in Philadel-phia yesterday. Rusedski, the No 8 seed, went into the match after reaching the finals of the last two tournaments in which he has played. having finished runner-up to Goran Ivanisevic in Zagreb and Pete Sampras in San

Rusedski failed to take advantage of five break-point opportunities and found that the slow indoor hard court neutralised his normally powerful service. However, Johansson, ranked No 65 in the world to Rusedski's No 35, profited from forcing three service breaks - in the ninth game of the first set and the first and lifth games of the second set.
This surface is slow, which

is why I can return his serve here," Johansson, a baseline specialist, said. "If Greg was serving well. I'd have no chance to break his serve."

Of the five seeds in action, only Paul Haarhuis, of Holland, the No 3 seed, survived the first day. Haarhuis, ranked No 25 in the world. defeated Jiri Novak, of the Czech Republic, 6-4, 1-6, 6-3, in their first-round match. Jason Stoltenberg, of Australia, playing in only his second tournament since having surgery on his right forearm in early January. lost 6-2, 6-4 to a qualifier, Sjeng Schalken, of Holland.

Richey Reneberg, of the United States, withdrew from the tournament before taking the court, suffering from a strained left hip that he injured last week in Memphis. Reneberg's replacement, Michael Joyce, lost to a wildcard entrant, Justin Gimelstob, a fellow Ameri-can, 6-0, 6-3. The No 7 seed, Alex O'Brien, of the United States, also suffered an upset, falling to the unfancied Juan Albert Viloca, of Spain, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Sampras, the world No I. and Jim Courier, ranked No 18, the top two seeds at the tournament, will finally get under way by playing their first-round matches tomorSNOOKER

White gives evidence of return to form

FROM PHIL YATES IN VALLETTA

JIMMY WHITE compiled his fourth century break in as many matches to secure a place in the last to of the European Open, here in Malta yesterday, as the apprecia-bly improved form that he displayed at the International Open in Aberdeen last week

White, who was delighted to discover that he has climbed from No 36 to No 25 in the updated provisional world rankings after reaching the quarter-finals in Aberdeen with his first three match wins of the season, secured a 5-1 victory over Matthew Stevens. Stevens, 19, from Carmar-

then, is the sort of bold-potting youngster to whom White has fallen victim recently. However, with confidence partially restored. White dismissed him as of old.

White earned a secondround meeting with John Hig-gins by fashioning a 101 clearance in the sixth frame. but it was his capture of the fifth that more graphically illustrated his clear determination to climb back up the rankings.

"I don't usually have that kind of patience," White, who laid two successful snookers on the yellow after trailing by 33 points with only the six colours available, said. There are a few things I need to brush up on, but this was a vital result for me."

Stephen Hendry, the favourite, eased through by bearing Jamie Burnett, his Scottish compatriot, 5-1. It meant that Hendry has won 21 of his past 22 matches in ranking tournaments.

Despite compiling breaks of 86, 53, 42 and four others above 30, Hendry, the world champion, could not conceal his disappointment. "I just don't come out with all guns blazing for some reason and I have got used to being rubbish in the early rounds," he said. Hendry now meets Jon Birch, of Middlesbrough, who regis-tered an unexpected 5-1 victory over Dave Harold, the No II

The outcome was timely consolation for Birch, a keen musician, whose acoustic guitar was damaged, possibly beyond repair, on the flight to

WALLETTA, Malto: European Open: First round: A Hildrs (Eng) to M Williams (Wates) 5-3, S Lee (Eng) to M Williams (Wates) 5-3, S Lee (Eng) to S Davis (Eng) 5-4; J Higgins (Scot) to J Sasal (N Irs) 5-3, J Higgins (Scot) to J Sasal (N Irs) 5-3, J Walliams (Ting) to E Herderson (Soot) 5-2; P Etidon (Eng) to J Chapple (Maltel) 5-2; N Bond (Eng) to T Chapple (Maltel) 5-2, J Such (Eng) to J Burnel (Eng) 5-1, J Water (Eng) to J Such (Eng) to M Sitvers (Wates) 5-1; K Doherty (For to P Milliams (Eng) 5-3.

SQUASH

ANTWERP: Eato Open Imen, all England; Semi-limate: T Hands bit J Nacola 15-4, 5-15, 15-12, 12-15, 15-6, P Johnson bit D Medidings 15-9, 15-13, 4-15, 15-4 Finati: Johnson bit Hands 15-13, 15-7, 15-12.

Johnson tr Hands 15-13, 15-7, 15-12
ODENSE: Dentish Open Imen; Serni-finator D'arstund (Swey bit L Bust Pholip B-10, 9-1, 9-2, 9-3, J Weltings (Eng.) to Score (Scot) 9-6, 9-4, 9-2. Final: Fordund by Wellings 7-9, 9-1, 9-0, 9-1
AACHEN: Women's lowernement: Semi-finate: I Cherman (Eng.) bit S Homer (Eng.) 9-3, 5-9, 9-5, 9-5; S Schone (Ten) bit R Morace (Eng.) 10-8, 9-4, 9-4. Final-Charman bit Schone 9-1, 9-3, 10-8.

TABLE TENNIS

DOHA: Catar Open: Men. England bit say 3-2 (England names that. C Prean bt Yang Men. 16-21, 21-15-21-14, M. Syed in V Pracentin 21-16, 21-19, Prean and A Perry lost to Pacentin and Yang Men 12-21, 19-21, Syed toot to Yang Men 13-21, 12-21. Prean bt Pacentin 21-18-10-21, 21-12. Outerse-finals: Crarle 3 Austria 2: Aone 3 Germany 1, Japan 3 France 2; Swedon 3 England 0 (Swedom names Ints J Presson bit Prean B-21, 21-10, 21-11; J Waldner bit Syed 21-12, 13-21, 21-15, P kartsson and T Von Scheele bit Prean and Penry 21-17, 21-15)

TENNIS

SPORTS POLITICS

Options for Academy cut to three

THE three contenders to build the first British Academy of Sport, designed to improve Great Britain's chances of international success, were announced yesterday, with the decision immediately sparking a political row (John Goodbody writes).

The Labour Party has threatened that, were it to win the general election, then it might overturn the joint decision of the Government and the United Kingdom Sports Council. The shortlisted candidates are Sheffield, Upper Heyford, in Oxfordshire, and the Central Consortium bid. which is based at several sites in the Midlands. Ten others were eliminated vesterday.

The plans for the Academy have been criticised by some national governing bodies, many of which want the centre to concentrate on sports medicine and research and not on facilities for individual activities.

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Significant " and I

Referring to the shortlist. lain Sproat, the Minister for port, said: "All three sites have strong points, but we have a little more work to do before we reach a final decision." However, Tom Pendry. the Shadow Minister for Sport, said: "As Labour has not been involved in important decisions regarding the Academy, we cannot commit ourselves to supporting a chosen bid should we become the government. Instead, we will instigate a thorough review of all procedures and decisions

New format beckons

for Europe's finest THE Heineken Cup will be played on a home and away basis in its pool stages next season, with the 20 teams split into five pools of four for the third season of Europe's leading club rugby union tournament. The winners of the five pools will automatically go through to the quarter-finals. The remaining quarter-finalists will be decided by three matches played

between the five runners-up and the best third-placed team. The number of teams in the competition from each country will be the same as in 1996-97. England, France and Wales will each have four representatives, Ireland and Scotland will have three each and Italy one. Italy's second nomination will play off with the champion club of Romania for the final place. The format for the European Conference has yet to be decided.

Thiercelin set for second

SAILING: Marc Thiercelin, of France, on Credit Immobilier de France, is set to take second place in the Vendée Globe single-handed round-the-world race today after a close battle with his countryman, Hervé Laurent, on Groupe LG Traitmat. Yesterday the two were riding out a storm in the Bay of Biscay with only 200 miles to go to the finish at Les Sables d'Olonne. Even if Laurent beats him to the line, Thiercelin will take second because he has been awarded 34 hours in compensation for time he spent searching for the missing Jerry Roufs, of Canada, in the Southern Ocean.

Setback for Torrance

GOLF: Sam Torrance has pulled out of the Dubai Desert Classic, which starts today, for the second successive year. The Scot withdrew because his wife. Suzanne, is unwell. Last season he missed the event after hurting himself pushing his trolley at Dubai airport. Torrance, 43, who lies seventh in the Ryder Cup points table, was boping to improve his chances of a ninth successive appearance against the Americans.

England knocked out

TABLE TENNIS: England's men were yesterday knocked out by Sweden in the quarter-finals of the Qatar Open in Doha. After a run of four victories, that included an outstanding 3-2 win against Italy. England succumbed 3-0 to the Swedes, Carl Prean and Matthew Syed stretched their rivals to third games but Prean lost 21-11 to Jorgen Persson and Syed lost 21-15 to Jan-Ove Waldner.

ROWING

Plessis is perceived to have a

good image with no political

baggage at a time when the

South African Rugby Football

Union is under fire on various

fronts; he will be allowed to

name his own support team

that may yet include Mallett and the former Natal full

back, Hugh Reece-Edwards.

Markgraaff enjoyed a suc-cessful tour after the furore

that followed his rebuff to

François Pienaar, the World

Cup-winning captain, but Du

disagreed with some of his

tactical decisions and may

seek a playing style more closely related to that which

won the World Cup in 1995.

Whether that would include a

place for Pienaar in the team

to play the Lions remains less

certain, particularly now that

Pienaar will be out for a

month after damaging a ham-

string playing for Saracens on Sunday.

dent World Cup in South

Africa last year, play England

in a student international at

Cambridge on Friday, their

first meeting since the mass

France, who won the stu-

Plessis is known to have

Downing set to complete four in a row

DOWNING are expected to achieve their fourth successive headship in the men's divisions of the Cambridge University Lent races, which start today. Caius, who start in second place, are expected to be under pressure from Christ's.

Trinity Hall, who hold the women's headship, are an unknown quantity this year, as usual, and will be looking to hold off Emmanuel.

Men

FIRST DIVISION (4 55) Downing, Cause, Crists's, Timiny Holl, Queens', 1st & 2rd Trings, URSC, Chuts'ria, Jesus, Emmanuel, Rembroke, Gaton, Magdatene, Schreysusser, Filterhieren, Si Carbernies's, Care SECOND DIVISION (3,35): Selwyn, Peterhouse, Roberton, Dewning II, Kings's, 1st & 3rd Trings II, Carpus Christ, Jesus II, 1st & 3rd Trings II, Carpus Christ, Jesus II, 1st & 3rd Trings II, Carpus Christ, Jesus II, 1st & 3rd Trings II, Carpus III, Churchill II, Firth House, II, Peterhouse II, URSC III Magdatene II, Christ's II

Thrifty Hall II, Selwyn III, Churchill II, Firmmund II, Scholymane's II, CAT, Jesus III, Ghron II, Roberson II, Downing III, Corpus Christia, Welthon Likelig (N, 1st & 2rd Trings), III, Churchill III, Carpus III, Kings's II, Hughes Hall, Thrity Hall III, Derven, Schney Susses, II, Churchill III, Queens's III, Kings's II, Hughes Hall, Thrity Hall III, Derven, Schney Susses, II, Churchill III, Carpus III, Kings's III, Hughes Hall, Thrity Hall III, Derven, Schney Susses, II, Churchill III, Carpus IIII, Scholy Susses, III, Standy Hall II, Less V., Si Edmand's, Adderbasooke's II, Vollage V., Selwyn III, Chaper's V., Downing IV, Fizzalism III, Tringy Hall IV, 1st & 3rd Tringy VI.

1st & 3rd Tringy VII.

Women

Women
FIRST DIVISION |4 15| Tilesy Hall,
Emmanuel, Oucens, New Hall, LMBC,
Jeaus, Newham, Churchil, Christis, Si
Gallarne's, Clare, Girton, Scriey Susson,
Pembroke, Downing, Caus, Selvyn
SECOND DIVISION (259), CCA1, Corpus
Civisti, 1st & 3rd Timity, Aessi II, Magdalere, Robrision, Fitzwitism, Ermenuel II,
LMBC II, Homeston, Peterbuse, Wollson,
IGrg's, Newham II, New Hall II, Si
Carterine's II, Timity Hall II, Si
Lamen, 1st Z. 3rd Tirvey II, Dohning II,
Hamerton II, CCAT II, Softey Susses II,
LMBC III, Roberson III, Magdithere II, Fatzwellam
II, Corpus Christiff, Jesus III, Churchili
II

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NEA): Ariama 106 Golden State 100, Cristich 83 Debae 84, Cheago 116 Portiana 89, Charictle 96 Sen Antonio 84.

BOBSLEIGH NAGANO: World Cup: Four-marc 1. United States I (8 Shaner, C Morten, R Jones, R Olesen) (52 Fises, \$3.05) Inter 45 Fises, 2. Germany 8 752 59, 53.20) 1.46 fb; 3. France 1(52 Fr. \$3.20) 1.46 fb; 4. Switzerland 8 (52.96, \$3.14) 1.46 fb; 5. Latra 1 (52.97, \$3.14) 1.46 fb; 6.00) 1.62 89, \$3.26), 1.46 fb; World Cup positions: 1, Germany 1.203pts; 2. Switzerland 1.183; 3. Germany 1.276 4 flay 1.166 5 Linked States 1.161, 6. Austra 1.14?

BOXING

TOICYO: World Boxing Association fly-weight championship: Jose Bonita (Ven holden bt Himle loka (Japan) rsc 7th CRICKET

RIED STRIPE CIIP (Ival day of tou) The Welloy, Angualar Leented Islands 168 and 236 ilk Antonon 95 C Daris, 5-42). Windowy Islands 199 and 203 il Munay 52) Leenverd Islands best Annovad Islands by two runs Port of Spatin Trindad and Tobago 305 and 2049 dec (I) Nagamotico 4-50, Guyana 231 and 3-0—tain stopped play Mach disantan Spatial Spati

SOMETO: Tour match time day, Australian 261-7 (J L Lunger 63, M 7 G 5500 69 A Hall 4-49, Transval Invitation, M 122 Australians best Transval Invitation 4 by 79 runs

79 Units
DHAKK: SAARC tournament (50 oxes)
Sh Lanka A 130 iP S kalpage 51 Agia Jawo 4-17). Pakastan A 133-9 (Arban Sartas 64 not oxil Pakastan A bool Sh Lanke A by one workst.

CYCLING TOUR OF LANGRAW! Soth stage (Raid Runs to Genting Highlands, 71 Morrehos) 1, L Santo (R. MG) 2tr 19tm (Asset: 2 Petrus (R. MG) 2tr 19tm (Asset: 2 Petrus (R. MG) at 19th (Asset: 2 Nota) (MG) at 128, 41., 17anner (BB) at 16.12 56. Whyn (BB) at 13.48 59. 47 Poste at 16.57 Overall positions: 1, Sonto 13tr 33tm 13tm (Asset) (Asse

FOR THE RECORD (Sale Paul), 2, C Baker (Sale Paul) Epier. 1. H Gritans (Stockport), 2, S Richards. (Strousbury) Missed sabre: 1 C Farrer (Durham University), 2, P Hough (Wrekn)

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AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 1 Portsynollh 2
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN
LEAGUE: First division: R T M Newcastle 4
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Eatungion 1 FA CARLSBERG VASE: Semi-final draw:

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain

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SNOW REPORTS

55 65 good valled closed fil (Most pistes still good despite warm wealher) 8 20/2 fine lair varied stush (Pistes skiable but soli/slushy because of rain) 55 175 slushy heavy slushy rai (Windy at altitude, very damp, sticky conditions) 350 good vaned good (Pistes in good shape in nearly all areas) tair 2 25/2

SWITZERLAND 90 340 good crust law tai (High-pistes very good; lower thinning in places)

Guisborough v North Ferrity, Bartelead v Whitby

First legs to be played on March 15, second legs on March 22

Com-RUGBY UNION

Second legs on Wardt 22 SPANISH LEAGUE: Valencia 2 Com-PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Mantamo 1 Sporting Lisbon 2 KUALA LUMPUR: Dunhill Cup: Group A: Finland 1 Singapore 0; Malaysia 0 Crima 0

GOLF SONY WORLD RANKINGS (US unless SOMY WORLD RANKINGS (LS uniosas stated) 1. G. Norman (Aus.) 1.7 70pts average 2. T.Lehman 9.83, 3. M.O'Mearn 9.00, 4. C. Montgomene faß) § 95, 5, E. Elsi SA) 8.70; 6, N. Faldo (GB) 7.98, 7. F. Couples 7.70; 8. M.O'Maka (Japan) 7.58, 9. N. Pros (2mn 7.24, 10, D. Love III 5.96, 11. P. Madaston 6.53, 13, C. Previn 6.44; 13. S. Hoch 5.87, 14. S. Jones 5.85; 15, T. Woods 5.82

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Washington 3 Boston 3 OT: Defroit 5 Phoenor 3

NORDIC SKIING

TRONDHERM: World champtonships: Men (15km) 1, B. Dahle (Nov. 1 120; S. A. 11 15ce; 2, M. Myhyse (Fin) 101 120; S. A. Prokuntrov (Ruze) 101 180; 4, T. Alsgaad (Nov. 1 01.22; 0, 5, F. Valbussi (t), 1 01; 24; 40, 6, J. Home

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Lacotte ama-teur doubles championship: Final: T Cockraft and R Owen-Browne bt W Boone and M Vendows 16-9, 12-15, 18-14, 15-6, 15-12

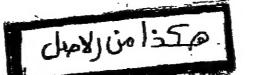
(5pm) Las. Conditions Runs to Piste Offip resort **AUSTRIA** Meyrholen FRANCE 85 195 good heavy slushy sun (Upper slopes good; lower becoming patchy)

L - lower slopes; U - upper.

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ARLAN: Men's tournement: First round, N. Kinter (Ger) tr. G. Forger (Fr) 6-1, 6-4, 5-8. Bruguers (So) to R. Vrapice! (Hott) 4-6, 7-6, C. Pobine (Fr) but O Camponese (n) 4-5, 6-4, 6-1, A. Boetsch (Fr) but N. Alarm (Mor) 6-6, 6-2, M. Marsetti (fill but M. Gobber (Gon) 5-6, 6-4, 6-4, G. Ivansevic (Cro) but A Othrovsky (Places) 7-6, 6-7, 6-2, D. Proposit (Ges) but M. Shch (Ger) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 Shch (Geti 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 PhilaDelpHia, Pennsylvania: Men's tournament: First round: K. Carten (Don) bi T. Carbonell (Spi 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, D Flack) (Spi 5-1, 6-4, 6-3, S Craiker (Hof) bi J. Stotlerberg (Au.s) 6-2, 6-4, P. Haarhus (Hof) bi J. Norski, C.J. 8-4, 1-6, 2-3, J. A. Viloca (Spi bi A.O. Bioni (US) 6-2, 6-6, 2-1, Johannsson (Swe) bi G. Rusedski (EB) 6-4, 6-2; J. Grmelsteb (US) bi M. Joyce (US) 6-0, 6-3

46 SPORT / RADIO

Sport sacrificed in name of entertainment

like about one-day cricket, but it's just not cricket, is it? And it's not really sport, either, come to that. The latest collection of absurdities is more than merely absurd: it is a matter that reveals nothing less than the lie in the soul of modern sport. But let us check out the absurdities

One-day cricket is a game that must, like an alchoholic, take life one day at a time. A game forced by the weather into a second day becomes a sad travesty of itself, sans crowd, sans atmosphere, sans everything. All that is left is the contest and that is simply not enough, not in that form of the

One-day cricket depends almost entirely on its sense of occasion, it is not so much a contest as a festival, a Roman holiday, a - to use the Indian term - tamasha. So it must be completed on the day. And so you need a contingency plan for when the rain comes.

The match last weekend between England and New Zealand needed the contingency plan. The only thing more asinine than the match and the regulations was the decision of the New Zealand captain, Lee Germon, to bat first. Once the predicted rain had duly fallen. England were required to make far fewer runs than their opponents, but with the same amount of wickets and the same number of overs of fielding restrictions. Naturally, they knocked them off in jig-time.

It was no contest, but contest was not the priority. The priority was tamasha. I have already had my fun with the gimmick of the batsman's personal theme tunes. This is a bit of harmless fun - like the match and like the sport of one-day cricket. Fun, rather than contest, is the priority. There is a further absurdity in the spectacle of an umpire who has taken to dancing

He has been the subject of

SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

television profiles because of this charming habit. It is, I think, utterly in keeping with the dignity of the occasion. Tamasha cricket needs a tamasha umpire.

One-day cricket is seen as very much a captain's game, but it is not. Never has a sport been so surrounded with re-

that leads to the Worldwide aware of the truth of it all-Wrestling Federation. aware of the truth of it all-that they are professional en place his fielders nor bowl his bowlers as he would like.

مكذا من رلامل

A bowler cannot bowl how he likes, either. He must bowl in the batsman's hitting zone: nothing to the leg and no bouncers. His job is largely reduced to putting the ball in play. In pinball, you put the silver ball into play with the sprung plunger and then it is all down to the bumpers and does one-day cricket. Professional wrestling is not

You do not need to be C.B. Fry to work out that, in every aspect of the game, the festival side of things has been emphasised at the expense of competition. In the 1960s, cricket audiences were dwindling and there was a cry across the land that cricket was a sport that needed to be more entertaining.

the flippers. It is the same for

the bowler in one-day cricket.

So we have one-day cricket, which is entertaining all right, but not entirely a sport - and once sport consciously tries to be entertaining, it sets off on the short but dangerous road

One-day cricket is entertainment. So is professional wrestling. Professional wrestling goes for things like outrageous costumes, audience participation, loud and violent music, scene-stealing officials. So

so much about the result as the spectacle, the crash-bang-wallop of it all. Need I say it? Oneday cricket is the same. Oneday cricket and professional wrestling are both entertainment packages: the issue of who wins and who loses is very much a secondary affair. Obviously, one-day cricket

is presented as a competition, but then so is professional wrestling. This illusion is as necessary a part of sport as tamasha. And certainly the players try hard enough to win rather than to lose - within the parameters of a game that has been regulated into absurdity for the sake of tamasha. Certainly, all the players are

that they are professional entertainers in a package in which the priority is public entertainment. What, you may ask, is wrong with that? Absolutely nothing. But the subtle shift in priorities, from contest to entertainment, does change absolutely everything.

Now sport is entertaining, as we all know, or we wouldn't be here. Monday night brought us a footballing version of King Lear on the heath, with the seven-goal, galeblown West Ham United v Tottenham Hotspur match The England v France rugby union international on Saturday is a mouth-watering prospect for the spectator.

Yet in both these examples, the players' priority was or will be to play to win. A sport that seeks only to entertain can seldom offer any higher joy. Here is a fundamental law of professional sport sport is only incidentally entertaining. And that is why it can so often be a good deal more.

A triumph for enlightenment

New Found Land: The Star Quilter. Radio 4, 2.00pm.

This is the first play by a Native American to be broadcast on British This is the first play by a Native American to be broadcast on British radio and opens at a time, two decades ago, when Native Americans were still known as Indians. The themes in William S. Yellow Robe Jr's play are racial tension and racial enlightenment, played out through the relationship between two women in Montana: one, Monta Gray, a Native American living on a reservation, the other, Seana McKenna, a middle-class white woman who asks Gray to make a quilt for a visiting Republican senator. Gray is played by Monique Mojica and McKenna is played by LuAnne Jorgensen. Their ambiguous relationship develops in some surprising ways.

Global Shake-out, Radio 4, 7.20pm.

One of the mysteries of the headlong drive towards a single European currency, to be followed inexorably by a federal state, is the fact that politicians appear to think they can set boundaries to serve their own agendas in an era when they patently cannot. Just as technology has helped the drive towards a global economy, it is also making a nonsense of cultural boundaries. The first in this new sense, presented by Edward Stourton, takes as its theme Turkey, where satelline television and other communications technologies are busting open old monopolies and making a nonsense of attempts to control access to information. Later in the series Stourton visits. Mexico and Italy.

2.05 Outdook 2.30 Megamix 3.43 Sports Roundup 3.15 Concert Half 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 British Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.30 Discovery 7.01 Outbook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Multisrack 9.15 British Today 9.30 Meridian On Screen 10,30 World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11,10 Science

Mendian On Scient 10,30 World Tous 10,45 Sports Roundup 11,10 Science View 11,15 County Style 11,30 Multitrack 12,30ears From Our Own Correspondent 12,45 British Today 1,30 Outlook 1,55 Words of Faith 2,30 Assignment 3,15 Sports Roundup 3,30 Mendian Books 4,30 Surope Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00em Mark Griffiths 6.00 Breakfast Show 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto Pleyel (Clarinet Concerto in B flat major)

Pleyel (Clariner Concerto in B flat major) 3.00 Jernie Crick 7.00 Neversight 7.30 Sorgata, Schumenn (Pleno Sonatz No 2 in Grmnor Op 22) 8.00 Evening Concert. Rosein (Barber of Seville, Overfure); Villa Lobos (Gulter Concerto); Copland (Ap-palachieri Spring); Vaughen Williams (A London Symphony) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00em Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

Alan Lee on the opposites attracting speculation in New Zealand cricket

Rivals resigned to playing for keeps

known to few and a man few, apparently, wish to know. It is the saga of an anonymous cricketer who found himself elevated to national captain, the glamorous young rebel whose job was undermined and the divisions that seem inevitable now that there is no longer room for suffering is responsible for the

sharp rise in England's spirits. The cricket world scratched its head when Lee Germon was put in charge of New Zealand late in 1995. He was uncapped and had made one largely undistinguished tour. Globally, he was a nobody,

and the mystery was all the deeper because New Zealand already possessed a talented wicketkeeper-batsman in Adam Parore. Somehow they

have survived as team-mates up to now, though Parore has been unexceptional as a specialist batsman and Germon has not convinced everyone in or around his team that he is worth his place on any basis. Parore is now clinging on only through the fitness problems of others, while Germon's position is being questioned more pointedly with each new

it seems plain to all but the New Zealand selectors that they are wasting a place by accommodating them both. Parore are Germon and doubtless aware of this view. but if their relationship lacks warmth it will not be entirely

Answers from page #

people of the south".

TORRIDONIAN

SHAWNEE

WOOSTER

SUNYATA

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222

10p

unsettling rivalry. There is a chasm between their characters, one unlikely ever to be

bridged. Germon, a married man expecting his first child, owed his promotion to an image as a good guy, the type that New Zealand cricket was urgently seeking after the embarrassment of having to suspend three players for drug offences and, in rapid succession, discarding Geoff Howarth as coach and Ken Rutherford as

captain. Glenn Turner was installed as coach with a brief to clean up the act and he identified Germon as his ideal accomplice. "There is a chasm between

their characters, one unlikely ever to be bridged' many things in his time, but "good guy" would not feature prominently among them. His dressing-room nickname is "May", short for mayerick,

> and he is widely considered to be cocksure and egocentric. He has looks, youth and charisma going for him and he has not discouraged the attentions of women's magazines, which are inclined to seek his picture whenever they feature the nation's most eligi-

> Ironically, the one blemish on Germon's references within cricket indirectly concerns Parore, who was ruled out of a

WORD-WATCHING

(c) Of or pertaing to a tribe of Algonquian Indians, formerly resident in the eastern US and now in Oklahoma. Designating a member of this tribe or its language. From the Mundsee for

(b) Of, pertaining to, or designating the later of the two main series of Pre-Cambrian rocks in NW Scotland, which occur in a

narrow belt running from Cape Wrath to Skye, and consist chiefly of sandstones, grits, and shales. Also the time of their deposition. A toponym from Loch Torridon.

(a) To behave in a manner appropriate to Bertie Wooster, an amiable, vacuous young man about town in the novels of P. G. Wodehouse. An eponym. "We Woostered away for a while, giggling slightly... While we idly handled these Woosterisms, he slid a scribbling-pad across his desk."

(a) The concept of the essential emptiness of all things and of ultimate reality as a void beyond worldly phenomena. From the Sanskrit word for emptiness, derived from sūnyā empty, void.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nadó RIS 2 Be7 and White wins the exchange (rook for bishop) and will

PRICES NOW INCLUDE STEE UK DELIVER'S TO TIMES READERS (REST OF WORLD ADD II PER ITEMS STERLING/US DOLLAR CHEQUES ONLY, (E) AUSS Less, TIMES CROSSWIRDS - Backs (BULLE) I RAPP stack. The Times Concise - Book 2 (2A) puzzles) 5599. Collists Theorems 18.409. Crowword Solver's Dictionary 18.95 (UK only). Crowword Manual 19.99 The First Omnibus Book of The Similary Times Crosswards. The Dictionary 18.95 (UK only). Crowwords (Crynig) 64.99 each. The Times Crosswards, The Dirth Back of The Times Journal Crosswards, Crynig 64.99 each. The Times Times in the Times Crosswards. The Times Times

Cairns hit him on the head at net practice. Germon was so confident of being named as eplacement that, at least men-

tally, he had his bags packed. The subsequent announcement that the selectors had recalled Tony Blain after a him hugely and, in a move that appeared to suggest that he felt he had no future in Test cricket, he issued a statement condemning the selectors.

Germon was shown ultimate forgiveness two years later and his demanding style of captaincy has achieved respect, though possibly not affection or admiration. A

limited cricketer, he is one of that rare breed that seems born to do little but lead, and while this can be happily accepted so long as results are good, it tolerance at times like

this. The tolerance of Parore has worn thin in various quarters. Earlier this winter he was told by his province. Auckland, that, temporarily, they no longer required his services. The reasons were never fully explained but they certainly included a cavalier, even arrogant attitude to team practices and gatherings.

No other province seems keen to take a risk on a player with a reputation for being difficult, even unpopular, within a team environment. If he was not part of the New Zealand squad. Parore would have nobody to play for, a bizarrely friendless plight for a eading international player.

If Parore has achieved spectacular allenation, however, no one disputes that he has talent and most in this country believe him to be a far better batsman - and arguably a better wicketkeeper - than Germon. He also plays his cricket with undoubted spirit, even if this too often becomes an overtly noisy and offensive

aggression. Germon speaks much of instilling aggression in his side but, somehow, one wonders if the heart of this essentially decent man is quite in it. On Sunday, after a second one-day international defeat, he was a sad, somewhat emotional figure, and if it was not the mood of one who fears imminent demotion, it

was a very good impression. There may be no significance in the selectors retaining their one-day squad only for the third match, at Napier today, but the probability is that their loyalty to Germon would not withstand further heavy losses. Come Friday week, when New Zealand play Test match against Sri Lanka, there could conceivably be a new captain in charge, giving Parore back the dual role that he never wanted

India

60p

NEW PER SECOND BILLING -



Germon, above, is on a sticky wicket because of New Zealand's poor results. The selectors could now turn to Parore, the charismatic maverick, to replace him



RADIO 1 At times in GMT: News on the hour. 5.30mm Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shaft 7.30 Discovery 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Concert Hall 9.07 World News 9.15 Andy Kershaw 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Off the Shaft 11.30 A Nistory of British Theatre 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Composer of the Morsth 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Megernux 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Concert Hall 4.15 World

7,00em Merk Raddiffe, includes 7.50 Newsbeat 9,00 Sirrion Meyo 12,00 Jo Whiley, includes 12,30pm Newsbeat 2,00 Nicity Campbelt 4,00 Kevin Green-ing 6.15 Newsbeat 6,30 Evening Ses-sion 8,30 John Peel 10,30 Mary Anna Holbe 1,00em Claire Sturgess 4,00 Cive Warren

Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 John Furnishys 1.30pst Debbie Traver 3.00 EG Stewart 5.05 Chris Serie 7.00 Jen Lloyd with Filik on Two 8.00 Boys of the Lough (1.4) 8.30 Jen Boyd — A World of Music (2/4) 9.00 Aris Brailla's Acrons Two Cultures. This week- actor Roshen Seth (2/5) 9.30 Higgs Ogden 10.30 The Jerosenos, 11.46 The Set of the Earth (3/7) 12.05mm Charles Nove. 3.00 Steve Medden

5.00exx Morning Reports 5.00 The Breaktast Programme 9.00 The Maga-zine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.05pm Fuscos on Five 4.00 John Investigle Nationwide 7.00 News Extra with Valida Sanderson 7.35 Trevor Brooking's Footbell Night Includes coverage of lonight's. FA Cup and Premieration metalliss, Including Chelses, v Leicester and Southermoton v Winteledon, Includes the results of the Nedonal Lottery 10.00 The Baker Line 11.00 News Edne 12.00 Alter Hours 2.05em. Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Cirls Ashley and Sendy Warr 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lonaire Kelly 2.00pm Torring Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportszone 10.00 James Whate 1.00am lan Collins

6.00mm Russ 'n Jono's Breaklest Experience 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jenimy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forest 2.00mm Randel Lee Rose

em On Air. Includes Blow (Blessed is the man); Tchalkovsky (Plana Concento No 2 in G); Liszt (Hungarian

Morning Collection. Includes Drollick (Legend in A list, Op 59 No 5) Musical Finountiers.

ist, Op 58 No sy
16,00 Musical Endounters,
Includes Higher (Cutet in C),
Gercher (Five Partsongs to
Poems by Walson Stevens)
12,00 Composer of the Week.
Koechtle.
1,00pm The Bifrishghten
Lunchtline Concert. Richy
and Relico Ichles.

Lunchtime Concert. Richard Boothby and Relic Ichise. viole de gentes, Shalev Ad-B, harpsichord, Bach (Sonation In D), Sainte-Colombe Concert à Deux Violes. La

(Concert a Deux Violes, La Paporte); Bach (Foccata in C minor MWV971); Marais (Liis-Foles of Espagne) still deveelt Choles, Includes Respigni (Pines of Poma); Doppler (Paraphiase ch Bettin's La Somembuse) Choral Etemanon, Live from

H XV1 41); Dowland (Behold a Wonder Heare)

5.50 BBC Rush Hour Concert.
Live from the Wigmore Hall,
London, Endellion Cuartet,
Devid Pyett, Horn, Bertok
(String Querter No 2); Wolf (Ballian Severade, Horn
Guinter In E flat, K407)

7.00 Cockdella (7/8)

7.30 Rillies of Spring, Joanne,
MacGregor, piano, BBC
Scottjah Symphony
Orchestra, Conductor Camo
Vensica, Stravinsky (Scherzo 8
is Russe; Mavra)

9.10 Notes: Transports (3/5)

9.20 Any Which Way You Can.
The Clerks' Group sing
Ockeghem's Misse Culsaries
for In the Physian mode

10.00 Volces: Jamacok

10.00 Volces: Jamacok

10.00 Volces: Jamacok

Coles
11.30 Composer of the Wes
Pffizher (r)
12.30sm Jazz Notes
1.00sm Through the Night

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 8.00 News 6.10 Ferming 5.25 Prayer 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parlament 8.53 Manual Residences 18.53

Weether
9.00 News 9.05 Molweek, with
Times columnist Libby Purves
10.00 News Discorsive
5xcersions (FM) (1/3)
10.00 Delly Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Western Horr

10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 Gerdeners' Question Time,
with Sic Robson (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Rent (5/5) 12.55 Weather
1,00 The World at One
1,40 The Archers (r) 1.55
Shipping Forecast
2,00 News; New Found Land:
The Shar Quilter. See Choice
2,45 The Vegetable Patch: The
Potato (2/5)
3,00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4,00 News 4,05 Kaleidoscope,
Paul Gambaccini reviews the
sci-fi spool Mars Attack
4,45 Short Story: Isn't Life a
Hoot, by Kitly Ray
6,00 PM 5,50 Shipping Forecast
5,55 Weather

8.30 Counterpoint (r) 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Global Shake-out. See

6.00 Six O'Clock News

Choice
8.05 The Wardrobe(1/6) (r)
8.15 The People's Peace,
Professor Kerneth Morgan
looks at the themes that
dominate life in post-war
Britain (1/6) (r)
9.00 Fisshpoints: The Big Bang
and particle physics (3/4)
9.30 Keleidoscope (r) 9.59
Weather

Weather 10.00 The World Tonight 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Railway Bazzer, by Paul Theroux (2/10) (r) 11.00 Truty, Medity, Bletchley 11.15 The Cookbook of Apiclus

11.19 The Cooksbook of Apichus with Keith Floyd (5/6) 11.30 Seymour the Fractal Cat (FM) (2/5) (r) 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW) 12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: I Am Stifl the Greatest, Says Johnny Angelo by Nik Cohn (3/3) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

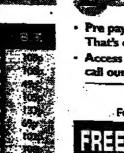
FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97,699.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.00.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198: MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 698, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648, LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CALSSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1058, 1088. Flevision and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemany Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

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Australia

20p

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If not unbelievable, then truly unspeakable

told at the beginning of No Child of Mine (ITV). It had to be, because it was a rotten made-

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licence

For those who missed either the programme or the predictable brouhaha that preceded it, this was the story of Kerry, who from the age of 10 was sexually abused by just about every adult she came in contact with. Mother, father, stepfather, care worker, pimp. lorry drivers - it was a long, depressing and quite extraordi-

nary list. Her mother? Again and again, during a film that ITV quite properly showed at a late hour, that opening statement came back to me. This was a true story." As a journalist I am trained to think "Bet it isn't". As someone from a nice, safe, middle-class background, my instincts were "No, it can't possibly be." But it was, it said so at the beginning, so it had to be. Didn't it?

quite disappear and this I eventually concluded was not entirely my fault. Peter Kosminsky, the producer, had taken us on a journey of depravity that was both beyond belief and beyond the credible boundaries of dramatisation. We needed facts (how common is mother-daughter abuse?), we needed information fare pimps really allowed to stand outside the gates of children's homes? and

the press release he sent to journalists. Unfortunately, he did not have where it mattered last night on the screen. What he did have was a quite outstanding performance from Brooke Kinsella as Kerry. It was the sort of performance that Dustin Hoffman or Daniel Day-Lewis would have been proud ofall eyes, body language and utter concentration. And while it was

> BEC2 6.00em Open University: Living with Technology (7372978) 6.50 The Last of

the Liberties (5234930) 7.15 News (1)

(632535) 7-30 Capitalin Caverran and the Teen Angels (1227930) 7-55 Record Breakers Gold (r) (1) (7821775) 8-20 Teddy Trucks (9576688) 8-25 Spot (1104775) 8-35 The Record (9737607)

9.00 Jeunes Francophones (1049336) 9.25 See You, See Me (8318268) 9.45

Words and Pictures (367591) 10.00 Playdays (14591) 10.30 Numberlime (4347369) 10.45 Cals' Eyes (3892274) 11.00 Around Scolland (2941201) 11.20

Music Makers (7026046) 11.40 Science In Action (1229404) 12.00 Spenish Globo

(5558133) 12.30 Working Lunch (35171) 1.00 The Geography Programme (15577423) 1.20 Thunderbirds in French (98151249) 1.25 Zig Zag (15556930) 1.45 Come Outside (8869404) 2.00

Taddy Trucks (r) 2.05 Spot (r) 2.10 Everyone's Got One (9764572) 3.00 News (1) (1857985) 3.05 Westminster 3.55 News (T) 4.00 Today's the Day (862) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (666) 5.00 Esther (9862) 5.30 The Village (560442)

6,00 Star Troic The Next Generation (r) (T)

7,30 Counterblast A woman who runs a

8.00 University Challenge Queen's University, Belfast, take on Girton College, Cambridge (1) (5046)

8,30 Changing Rooms (r) (1) (7881)

(T) (412065)

(364317)

19,30 Newsnight (T) (816713)

11.15 This Life (r) (1) (141171)

12.00 The Midnight Hour (T) (83244)

sanctuary for unwanted animals argues

that keeping pets is demeaning and should be abolished (1) (775)

journey of mangetout from a farm in Zimbebwe to the dinner tables of Britain

Beroness Smith (9.50pm)

9.50 A Women Called Smith Elizabeth Smith take about

10.00 Even Further Abroad with Jonathan Meedes The Times columnist explores

12.30sm Learning Zone: The Open University: Home and Away (60805) 1.00 Looking Glass World (97602) 1.30

Samples of Analysis (34621) 2.00 Modern Languages; German (50737) 4.00 English Heritage (19805) 4.30 Unicet in the Classroom (18195) 5.00

the world of caravanners (1) (76930)

Modern Times The first of a

new 12-part series looks at the

6.45 Trey and Simon's Transmiss Impossible (985423)

5.55 Turning Points (r) (282688)

7.00 Hancock (b/w) (r) (1) (9626)

(6972055) 12.05pm History File

above all we needed corroboration.

Kosminsky has it - it says so in

My doubts, you see, never did easy to warm to Colin Salmon. who played the teacher who finally realised things were wrong, the real praise belongs to the actors who took on the thankless roles of Kerry's mother, father and steplather. Sharon Small, Bill Geraghty and Geoffrey Church. May the rest of their careers be blessed with

heroes and happy endings. Having opted for dramatisation as the best way of telling the stury, Kosminsky employed intelligent restraint in what he did and did not show. While never succumbing to prurience, he made it quite clear what surt of abuse we were dealing with but barring one brief, distressing but justifiable rape scene we never saw any of it. People may not like the story he was telling, but he had done his utmost to ensure they would not be sidetracked into criticising the

manner of its telling. If deciding what was true was the problem with No Child of REVIEW



Mine, the difficulty with Inside Story: To Catch a Cheat (BBCI) was working out which side to cheer for.

As someone in the privileged osition of paying income tax and National Insurance firs all confessions today, isn't it?) I should have been supporting the benefit fraud investigators as they bravely batbillion a year paid to fraudulent claimants. But it was awfully difficult.

What lan Stuttard's film exposed was the mundane reality behind the headlines of the Gov emment's Benefits Fraud Hotline. It may get 1,000 calls a day and, thanks to an unusual way of accounting, be able to point to impressive savings in payments, but it has also — because of the requirement to investigate every call - become a charter for those conducting personal vendenas.

You're the sixth I've had this year." said a weary-sounding woman as yet another investigator asked her how many nights a week her boyfriend stayed at the flat. "I wish you people would just she complained. That remained an option, replied her stony-faced inquisitor.

Three quarters of calls to the hotline allege two basic sorts of fraud: claiming benefit while working and claiming benefit as a single person when living with someone. The first should be easy to detect but isn't. "The strange thing is, if all these people are unemployed, why are none of them at home during the day?" complained another investigator.

s for the second, it appeared to be an enforcement nightmare (how many nights a week does your boyfriend stay, on average?") suggesting that the problem lies as much with the system as it does with the

But for all the insights the film offered, it never quite engaged in the way that this style of "people at work" documentary normally does. We got to know the faces of some of those involved but never their characters. As for the drama, well, there wasn't any. Every now and then a caption would flash up "eight people were duly signed off benefit" or "the next day the

single person". I know. I should have cheered ... I stifled a yawn. Given the absolute avalanche of

pre-publicity, it hardly seemed watching Timewatch: Love Story (BBC2). "Nazi-Jewish-lesbian love romp," screamed the newspapers, unable to contain their good fortune at getting three such emotive words into one headline. Catrine Clay's film, however, adopted a thoughtful approach. charmingly retelling the story of the illicit love affair between Lilly Wurst, a Nazi medal-winning mother of four, and Felice Schragenheim, a young Jewish woman destined to die in Belsen. Wurst is still alive and, together with "underground Jews" who somehow managed to survive in Berlin, provided a vivid and moving account of a love that

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (46959) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (50881) 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1) (8391591) 9.20 Style Challenge (1021930) 9.45 Kilroy (6396794)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (98607) 11.00 News (1), regional news and weather

11.05 The Really Useful Show (578359) 11.35 Change That (5857775) 12.00 News (T) (8974423)

12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5550591) 12.30 Going for a Song (7841626) 12.55 The Weather Show (34958572) 1.00 News (T) and weather (60268) 1.30 Regional News (98882355) 1.40 Neighbours (T) (20451046)

2.05 Police Rescue (8736626)

2.50 As Time Goes By (r) (5370152) 3.20 Well Worth a Visit Matthew Collins takes a trip to The Old Operating Theatre Museum, built in 1821, where the last ampulations without ensesthetics took

3.30 Playdays (1260336) 3.50 ChuckleVision (1240572) 4.10 Popeys and Son (9357510) 4.35 The Wild House 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (1005046)

5.35 Neighbours (r0 (T) (561171) 6.00 News (T) and weather (997) 6.30 Newsroom South East (249)

7.00 Noel's Telly Years Danis Quilley, the actor, the comedian Birry Cryer and Bev Bevan, drummer of the Move answer questions about events in 1970 (1084). 7.30 Tomorrow's World Special edition from Kenya, where farmers have finally outwitted the marauding elephant, babbons have been successfully immusised against pregnancy with a reversible vaccine, and a remerkable women has saved the country's banana crop from

oblivion. With Shahnaz Pakravan and Craig Doyle (T) (133): 8.00 The National Lottery Live (214341) 8,15 25 Years of the Two Roonles (853442) 8.50 Points of View (292930)

9.00 News (1) and weather (8591) 9.29 National Lottery Update (488336) 9.30 translaters Drame, with Julia Ford and Ken Christiansen. A young drifter arrives at Vernemoor with

10.25 Sportsnight Desmond Lynam intro-duces highlights of tonight's FA Cup litth-round replays. Plus, Nigel Starmer-Smith looks forward to Saturday's five nations rugby union matches --Scotland v Ireland and England v France (1933249) 11.55 The Magnificent Seven Ridel (1972)
Lee Van Cleel takes over the role made famous by Yul Brynner in this western adventure, as he leads the gunslinging heroes in another quest - this time to rescue his wife, who has been kidnapped

Directed by George McCowan (T) (868152) 1.30am Weather (2765737)

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CHOICE

Modern Times: Mangetout BBC2, 9.00pm

At the start of Mark Phillips's clever documentary, somebody asks how it can be cheaper to import the mangetout all the way from Africa instead of growing it at home. The question is answered when we discover how little farmworkers in Zimbabwe are paid to pick the vegetable in comparison with what seems like a very healthy mark-up for Tesco. The farm, and Tesco, its main customer, are two of the prongs in Phillips's film. In a sense neither could exist without the other, though Tesco is in by far the theretoes a self-time to the prongs in the far the threat are in the context. stronger position. The third prong is the British consumer, as represented by a woman in Basingstoke who is throwing a dinner party with mangetout on the menu. As the diners enter into a noisy debate about the ethics of Third World horticulture, the Tesco team arrives in Zimbabwe.

BBC1, 9.30pm

Lucy Gannon's open prison series seems to be taking the unusual course of giving "guest" characters more prominence than the regulars. Last week's episode was dominated by the tax fraudster played by Bill Nighy and even his wife had a bigger part than most of the resident team. The same happens tonight when Tom Bell and Ken Christiansen join the cast. But at least they offer one of the regular stars. Julia Ford, the offer one of the regular stars, Julia Ford, the chance to make her mark. Ford plays Annie Whitby, who runs the prison workshop, Bell is her alcoholic father and Christiansen a young prisoner who falls for her. All is set for a typical Gannon scenario, in which personal and professional lives overlap and tricky dilemmas have to he resolved. The creator of Peak Practice and Soldier. Soldier, has come up with another

A Woman Called Smith BBC2, 9.50pm

satisfyingly crafted drama.

Tonight's subject is Baroness Smith of Gilmorehill, who, if you are puzzled, is the widow of the Labour leader, John Smith. Inevitably, her film is about coping with bereavement. Home movie footage of family holidays in the 1970s with her husband and three young daughters is polgnant testimony to her sense of loss and, not surprisingly, she recails the day he died as it it were yesteroay. Being offered a peerage has given her the opportunity to forge a new life, as well as making her appreciate the difficulties of living in Scotland and attending Parliament in London. Replicating her husband's life makes her feel guilty that she did not help him more. The film's climax is her maiden and the state of the speech in the Lords, an ordeal and an achievement for somebody who had never spoken in public before.

ER: Union Station Channel 4, 10.00pm

Although the Chicago hospital drama is not usually classified as a soap opera, you have say that it functions like one. That is to say that it gains its impact from increasing viewer familiarity with running characters and storylines. Anybody coming to the show for the first time tonight would struggle to make sense of what is going on. But for fans of the series, this will be a landmark episode. finally marking the departure of Sherry Stringfield's Dr Susan Lewis for her new post in Arizona. It is no routine farewell, her colleague Dr Greene (Anthony Edwards) has taken more than a shine to her and wishes the were not going. Against this edgy background is played the usual assortment of subplots, all developed from previous programmes, all helped along by that restlessly panning camera. Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (1942959) 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1046249) 9.55 Regional News (T) (5014713) 10.00 The Time, the Place (19317) 10.30 This Morning (T) (33367572) 12.20 HTV News and weether (6370607)

12.30 News (T) and weather (7536794) 12.55 Shortland Street Carmen and Guy find bad news follows bad news for Kelly

1.25 Home and Away (Ti (15574326. 1.50 Afternoon Live (20465975) 2.20 Vanessa (T) (30365978)

2.50 Afternoon Live (5365220) 3.20 News (T) (6355305) 3.25 Regional News (T) (7705846)

3.30 Tots TV (7072510) 3.40 The Blobs (9763572) 3.50 The Little Mermaid (1259220) 4.15 Dr Xargle. New arimales series about a group of aliens who land on Earth to find out more about its inhabitants (T) (9358249) 4.40 Cone Zone, A new comedy series (3984529) 5.10 Look and Cook (r) (7322249)

5.40 News (T) and weather (711249) 6.00 Home and Away Travis discovers the real Brad (r) (1) (555046)

6.25 HTV Weather (464355) 6.30 HTV News (T) (317) 7,00 Emmerdale Kelly is worried she may lose Torn, and Dee outwits Pollard (T) (6152)



Le Vell and Whittaker (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street Tony's mother arrives at Kevin (Michael Le Vell) and Sally's (Sally Whittaker) with some disturbing news (7) (201) 8,00 The Match - Livel Coce-Cola Cup:

Semi-Final Coverage of the postponed match between Stockport County and Middlesbrough Followed by National Lottery result (4881) 10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (33864)

10.30 Regional News (T) (450161) 10.40 Predator 2 (1990) Violent fantasy thriller. Danny Glover plays a detective lieutenant who in hunting the beast becomes its prey Also with Peter Hall and Gary

Bussey. Directed by Stephen Hopkins 12.40am Dating the Enemy (8354114)
1.40 A Woman with a Past (1992) starring
Pamela Reed, Dwight Schulz and
Richard Lineback. A seemingly respec-

table woman is arrested for armed robbery Directed by by Mimi Leder (224293) 3.20 Sound Bites (77734602)

3.55 Not Fade Away (r) (6080553) 4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (45098379) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (83911)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7844713) 5 10-5 40 Shortland Street (7322249) 6.25-7.00 Central News (846171) 11.55 Hunter (213862)

1.55am Funky Bunker (7362263) 2.55 The Chart Show (9978331) 3 50 Comedy Central (2168263) 4.45 Central Jobfinder '97 (\$866602) 5.20 Asian Eye (2203843)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6970607) 12,55-1.25 Emmerdale (7844713)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7322249) 6,00-7.00 Westcountry Live (14688) 11.55 Hunter: True Confessions, Detective drama series starting Fred Dyer and Steplanie Kramer (213862)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (7844713) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7322249) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (715) 6.30-7.00 Home Truths (317) 12.40am Dating the Enemy (8354114)

5,00am Freescreen (83911)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6982442) 12,55-1.25 A Country Practice (7844713) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7322249) 6.23 Anglia Weather (465084) 6.25-7.00 Angita News (846171)

10.29 Anglia Air Watch (613355) 11.55 Recing Stewart. A fly-on-the-wall look at the launch of the Jackle Stewart Formula One team (213862)

SAC

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (62997) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (43591) 9.00 Bewitched (80133)

12.00 House to House (83387) 12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (37539) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (53978)

1.30 Film: Down Argentine Way (18363794) 3.05 Travelog Treks (4622626)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (423) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (930)

4.30 Wings (442) 5.00 5 Pump (4930)

6.00 Newyddion (179775) 6.05 Heno (566152) 6.35 Jacpot (448317)

7.00 Pobol y Cwm (576423) 7.25 Flermio (941510) 8,00 Hawlio (3442) 8,30 Newyddion (9249)

9,00 Spin City (1201) 9.30 Roseanne (17775) 10,00 Brookside (122626) 10.35 ER |369220)

11.30 Dressing for Breakfast (38171) 12.00 Under the Moon (518669) 2.30mm NBA XXI. (70263)

4.30 Trans World Sport (19640)

CHANNEL 4

definitely dared not speak its

name. Not, at least, if its name was

Schragenheim.

Breaklast (43591) 9.00 Bewitched (r) (T) (80132) 9.30 Schools (T) (214133) 12.00 House to House (83387) 12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (T) (37539) 1.00 Cybill (r) (T) (24189539) 1.25 Night Mail (15572978)

1.50 Thanks e Million (1935, b/w) Musical salire with Dick Powell and Ann Dvorak. A singer deputices for a drunken political candidate and is elected Governor of Pennsylvania Directed by Roy del Ruth (T) (18367510)

3.30 Collectors' Lot Focusing on furniture designer Ambrose Heal (1) (423)

4,00 Fitteen-to-One Superior general know-ledge quiz (T) (930) 4.30 Countdown (Ti (442)

5.00 Rickl Lake (T) (4930)

5.30 Pet Rescue Bambi the greyhound is in need of a new home (T) (794) 6.00 Party of Five Bailey battles with chicken-

pox; Julia is stung by a college pro-lessor's brutally honest assessment of her work: Claudia talls under the spell of Avery Baltas (1) (315626) 6.50 Fresh Pop (135591)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (535871)

7.55 The Arts Photographer Jocelyn Targett assesses the candidates for best prolessional arts photographer (350133) 8.00 Brookside Will Sinbad be forced to leave

the Close for good? Has Cassie made matters worse for the Corkhills? (T) (3442) 8.30 Travelog (7/8) Pele McCarthy escapes to sh and Paul Gambaccini opts for the Polish capital, Warsaw (T) (9249)

9.00 Forteen TV Father Lionel Fanthorpe hunts for more mysteries and tales of the paranormal, including a look at unidentied objects found inside human beings Plus an Israeli alien that tound its way to Manchesler (T) (1201)

9.30 Brass Eye Controversial comedy from satirical sharp-shooter Chris Morris



10.00 ER Nurse Lydia Winght finally gets around to marrying policeman. Al Grabersky. Susan Lewis prepares to move to Arizona, and Mark (T) (1930)

upsets Rachel when he draws up a list of her good and bed points to help him to Julie or Rachel (r) (T) (3046)

11.30 Cheers Woody convinces Rebecta to hold a raffle with a Caribbean cruise as a prize (r) (T) (38171)

12.00 Under the Moon Sports phone-in show with Danny Kelly and Tim Clark (518669) 2.30am NBA XXL (70263) 4.30 Transworld Sport (19640) 5.30 Backdate (r) (T) (19669)

listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

UNITED AT 1885

SAT 7

8.00m Morring Glory (837385) 9.00 Regis and Kathre Lee (71030) 10.00 Another World (95978) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (48862) 12.00 Cyrah Windrey (91810) 1.00pm (94862) 12.00 Cyrah Windrey (91810) 1.00pm (94860) 2.00 Sety Jessy Reprisel (73289) 3.00 Jerny Jones (97084) 4.00 Bernard — with Children (2011) 7.00 Sampsons (9268) 7.30 M*A-5*H (1713) 8.00 Setylengs (19171) 9.00 Set Stallangs (90187) 10.00 Munder One (51274) 11.00 Set Trefs (Ned Generation (96807) 12.00 LAPO (56114) 12.30em Lusy Show (17737) 1.00 Hill Max (9732756)

7.00pm Hamiles: The Legendary Journeys (5295084) 8300 Renegate (5241404) 8.00 New York: **Undergover (5261289) ***10.00 Water Rate (5284255) ***11.00 Late Statio (5523152) 12.00 Hz Mox (7027379)

SKY MOVIES

SKY MOVIES

G.Olme The Balboy (1960) (6334201)
7.15 The Tin Soldier (1980) (8842510)
3.00 Oh God Book II (1980) (8825607)
10.35 Friends of Assist (1961)
10096571) 12.25 pm. A Christmas Romanus (1994) (738220) 2.00 Ws s Mad, Mad, Mad, World (1963) (769133)
4.76 Julius Verne's 800 Leagune Down
Se Assisten (1984) (90794) 6.00 Follow
The Fiber (1995) (26607) 7.30 El News
World (1984) (1975) 12.35 pm.
The (1985) (1987) 13.31 pm.
The (1985) (1987) 13.3

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

100am Abdeniofeelle Fill [1944] 1865171] 7.16 Angela (1904) (38430153) 1800 Shekkampe on the Ark (2599559) 18.25 On the Blulen (1951) [2522607] 12.00 Little Miles (1952) (78713)

2.00pm The Oregon Trail (1959) (9698) 4.00 Perso Rotso (1962) (4713) 6.00 Angele (1964) (51282) 6.00 Neil (1964) (13697) 10.00 Betman Forenar (1965) (78065) 12.00 Beyond the Law (1964) (238060) 1.55mm Nostratiumus (1965) SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Seven Little Foys (1935) (8931930) 8.00 My Stepmother Is an Allen (1988) (894375) 10.00 The French Connection (1971) (4339133) 11.30 The Fortune (1975) (5365220) 1,250m At Close Range (1986) (7412089) 3.39-5.15 The Count of Monte Cristo (1934) CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous carloons from Sum to Born, then TNT firms as follows: 9,00pm Forbid-dent Pinnet (1956) (2834020) 11.00 Jezzbei (1939) (2001508) 12.85mm That Simbing Feeling (1979) (55651379) 2.30 Strongroom (1962) (71818282) 3.85-5.00 Simon Simon (1971) (5600282) THE DISNEY CHANNEL

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Say Movies Gold tribus over at 10ps.
5,00em Mousa Tracis: (\$779682) B.35

Cuack Aback (\$715997) 8.30 Benkers
(\$157510) 7.15 Lidle Mermid (\$352794)

7.40 Aladdin (1350084) 8.45 Mighly Ducks
(748935) 8.30 Thron and Pumbas
(\$74999) 6.40 Care Bears (4013510) 8.16

Grounding Marsh. (5451997) 9.40 Big
Garage (4333317) 9.55 Lamb Chop
(4480442) 10.25 Muppel Bebles (\$364084)
10.50 Cumbo's Circus (\$534341) 11.20

Mouse Tracks (\$655794) 11.50 Linder the
Umbrala Tres (4483997) 12.20 pm Trans
and Pumbas (2371775) 12.35 Linte Mermid (1403046) 1.69 Fipper (8054084)
1.45 Aladdin (\$7539628) 2.10 Darlwing
Duck (\$77745572) 2.35 Bonker (1553775)
3.00 Cusck Alpack (\$942978) 3.25 Timon
and Pumbas (\$374336) 3.35 Gact Troop
(1572713) 4.00 Timon and Pumbas
(758572) 4.10 Goot Troop (238475) 4.35

Sorkers (\$9108317) 5.00 Aladdin (8055317)
5.25 Timon and Pumbas (660030) 5.35

Gardwarg Duck (439133) 6.00 Migrity
7.06 Arrost Home (2274) 7.39 Dr Cuben,
Medicine Woman (94591) 8.15 Touched
by an Angol (\$51939) 9.00 Lista Work
(40591) 8.30-10.00 Golden Girk (\$2125)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00mm Three Little Ghosts (7199133) 5.30 Inspector Gadget (9532713) 7.00 Samural

Pizza Cats (5514404) 7.30 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (5535639) 8.00 Missleed Ruter (5201794) 8.30 Crocadoo (520055) 8.00 Rimba's Island (1643572) 8.25 Why Why Farnity (6278317) 9.30 Zoobiles Zior (160065) 9.46 Why Why Farnity (159317) 19.00 Rimba's Island (2733387) 19.25 Why Island (2738138) 4.0 30 Zoobiles Zior 18.00 Pamba's Island (2733387 10.25 Why Why Family (7796133) 10.30 Zoobilec Zoo 21110085 10.85 Why Why Family (7796133) 10.30 Zoobilec Zoo 21110085 10.85 Why Why Family (58576210) 11.00 Princess States and the Jewel Filders (4700336) 11.30 Princoho Princess States and the Jewel Filders (6707379) 1.30 Princoho (5513775) 1.30 Bity the Cat (957205) 2.00 Three Letin Choics (5707474) 2.20 https://doi.org/10.1001/10.2003 2.00 Samural PC2c Cets. (577207) 3.30 Acc Verture (2853442) 4.00 Cesper (3853245) 4.30 Mighty Morphin Printer Ringers (3878133) 8.90 Masked Filder (5765048) 5.30 Spiderman (3852743) 8.00 Gooseburnes (3896626) 6.30-7.00 Satest Valley High (3850878)

SKY SPORTS 1 9.90mm Ricing News (83317) 10.00 The Footballers' Football Show (20688) 11.00 Hong Nord Merathon (33152) 12.00 Aerobas Oz Style (45248) 12.30pm Crick-ot: One Day (38959) 2.30 Pengside Boxing (35404) 4.30 Hall of Farne — Gord Mulius (35104) 4.50 Earle Corte (5705447) 8.00 (3840f) 4.30 Hati of Farne — Gard Mulia: (1810j 4.84 Sports Certre (67954472) 8.00 Wiestling (8713) 6.00 Sports Certire (9753-6.30 Grass Robot Rugby (3855) 7.00 F. Aup Fifth Round Reptay — Live (475442) 10.00 Sports Centre (47978) 11.00 Whes-ling: European Champsonship (10220) 1.00am FA Cup Fith Round Reptay (21602) 3.00-3.30 Sports Centre (1791 I)

12.00 Beach Volleyball (86940591) 1,00pm Golf Extra (87818220) 3,00 The Footballers' Gort Dama (8/10422) 3400 Pebel Footbal Show (85037220) 4.00 Pebel Sports (2185565) 4.30 Sporting Classics (28651365) 6.30 Iron Women: Devortable Seless (21852317) 4.00 Bouch Velleybal (86065775) 7.00 Sports Centre (85481045) 340 Seless Com Day (43546551) 4.305 7.30am Europosia (82288) 8.36 Nordic Signg: World Championships (30(71) 9.30 Nordic Steing: World Championships.— Live (165) 11.30 hdycar (1786) 12.30pen Siam Magazine (82201) 1.00 Tornis' Milan Indoor Dumament — Live

Genram's Ark (5832751) 7.50 Jose Smith (6765201) 8,00 Classic Corension Street (2336591) 8,00 Familes (2337862) 9,00 The Protessionals (1759022) 10,00 A Fine Romanos (8321862) 10,30 Mised Blessing

SATELLITE AND CABLE

World Cup Qualitying Rounds (177589) 7.46 World Cup Frendy — France v Nothedards (450046) 9.45 Tenns Milen Indoor Tournament (521539) 11.30 Tenns: ATP Tour Rouse (81201) 12.00-12.30am

6.00mm The Krypton Factor (5125274) 6.30 Tickle on the Turm (61481268) 6.45 Attach's Music (41226048) 7.00 Allicots (7689937) 7.15 Tickle on the Turn (4640734) 7.30 Humance (82/182) 10.30 Metrin These Wals (825/826) 11.00 Vetrin These Wals (846/825) 12.00 Classic Coronation Sheet (23/8976) 12.30 Classic Coronation Sheet (23/8976) 12.30 Per Formics (31/875) 1.00 Cronn Crart (355/839) 1.30 The Mypton Factor (456/832) 2.00 A Farmly at War (822/89) 3.00 Upchym, Dountstans (77788) 4.00 The Doctor Series. In Charge 2 (888/808) 4.30 A Firm Portonce (83/8289) 8.00 The Professorola (821/89) 8.00 Classic Coronacon Shreet (821/89) 8.00 Classic (821/89) 2.00 The Doctor Series: In Charge 2 (822/878) 7.00 The Doctor Series: In Charge 2 (822/878) 7.30 Mind Blassines (888/8997) 8.00 Good Life Guide (4737794) 10:00-11:00 The Protessionals (1636171) From 11:00pm-2:00pm Man and Motors GRANADA GOOD LIFE

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4,00pm Biography: Mane Antonesia the Tragle Curren (\$457539) 5,00 History Ainte (\$286152) 6,00 Our Certury (\$922715) 7,00-8,00 Biography: Orson Welles What THE SCHI CHANNEL

8.00pm Amazing Stones (4263207) 8.20 The Twinger Zone (4262336) 9.00 The Making of Mars Amach (3180572) 9.15 FILM: Invanion Earth: The Allens Are Film: Inventory partie: Inventors are here: 65744422; 19,50 Film: It Cante from Outer Space (456357) 1207 fales of the Unespecied (2676254) 2,00 flow years of Hostor (9963824) 2,00 flow years of Hostor (9963824) 2,00 Fiday the 15th (3964825) 13,00 4,00 Fiday the 15th (3964825)

TLC/DISCOVERY Grow Your Ourn (4256797) 10.00 Supprise Chels (7708539) 10.30 Our House (2665829) 11.00 Funds (2665829) 11.00 Out House (786688) 12.00 Magis in Minuten (2654978) 12.30 pm Graham Reir (1251743) 1.30 Today's Gournet (1280201) 1.30 Home Agam (1006274) 2.00 Hometure (55669627) 2.30 Furniture to Go (2471794) 3.00 Two's Countly (5589927) 3.30-4.00 This Od House (248539) OisCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm. 4.00pm Februs Alvertures II (246246) 4.30 Bush Tucker Man (3451930) 5.00 Connections 2 (5584421) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (2475510) 6.00 Wild Things (5701882) 7.00 Bryond 2000 (5571978) 7.30 Windows of Wagder (2469593) 8.00 Mystomous (1486946) 14869 1486946 (24869593) 8.00 Mystomous (1486946) 1486946 (24869593) 8.00 Mystomous

7,00 Seyond 2000 (5571978) 7,30 Wonders of Weather (2469958) 8,00 Mystorious World (5580626) 8,30 The Cluest (5588133) 9.06 Unexpansed (7878423) 9.30 The Old Lady of Nacca (9273419) 18.00 Discovery

7.00mm Tellystack (7537794) 7.35 Neighbours (211859) 8.00 Crossmads (855752) 8.26 EarlEnders (8587238) 9.00 The Bill (269572) 8.26 EarlEnders (8687238) 9.00 The Bill (269572) 8.20 Broad (2495715) 10.00 November Twom (7700997) 10.30 The Sulfwars (2665094) 11.00 Stocking (121177) 12.00 Crossmads (2666398) 12.30pm Neighbours (8856751) 1.00 Earl-Enders (9647258) 1.35 Pose (6187689) 2.15 A Lime Bill of Danton (6178959) 2.25 2.15 A Little Bit of Dayson (61728959) 2.25 2.15 A Little Bit of Dawson (61 172959) 2.25 50m/4 (2527794) 3.00 Tollystack, (5581 355) 3.00 The Bit (246597) 4.00 At Chemistra Great and Small (7881397) 5.00 Bob's Full House (5912794) 5.40 Crossnods (6322317) 5.06 EustEnders (3916981) 8.40 Bruse Forspin's Generation Game (6132697) 7.50 Are You Being Screat's (6671201) 8.30 Pluss Abbot (5661591) 9.00 The Bit (7870581) 9.30 The Pandise Club 602498791 10.35 Eustern (3980065) 11.15 (3889085) 11.15 Battom (3889085) 11.15

6.00em Hallway Across the Galaxy and Turn Lati (81572) 6.30 Ocean Odyssey (65201) 7.00 Escape from Jupiter (33959)

(95442) 8.30 Dennis the Menace (\$4713) 8.00 Earthwarn Jim (85065) 8.30 Bobby's World (\$9987) 10.00 Romused the Rendert (1988) 10.30 Enopoud (81249) 11.00 Denger Mouse (33201) 11.30 Gravedale 14gh (1989) 12.00 Cesar's Orthodina (65201) 12.50pm Art Atlack (23713) 1.00 Ann of Green Gables (28268) 2.00 Cosart Odyssey (2152) 2.30 Escape hom Jupiter (7572) 3.00 Batman (8559) 3.30 Flash Golden (8517) 4.00 Fashman (1955) Gordon (9317) 4.00 Earthworm Jim (1152) 4.30-5.00 Dennis the Menace (7336) NICKELODEON

6.00mm Killer Tornatoes, (76626) 6.20 Court Duclaute (14539) 7.00 Flocks (655335) 7.15 Hey Arnold (7077317) 7.30 Flugnars (2046) 8.00 Doug (37494) 8.30 Armar (95775) 9.00 Children's BSC (50355) 10.00 Wimple's House (95591) 10.30 Ballier (95539) 11.00 Magic School Bus (28356) 11.30 Herry's CallWi Ovec Cwaschzon's Library/Torses and Tarylimbo (19504) 11.30 Petry S Cayvin Order Children
Library/Topoley and TimyJimbo 159084
12.00 Bonanas in Pyjanas (3059)
12.30pm Linb Bear Stones (65775) 1.00
Children's BBC (35510) 2.00 Dr. Seuss (1558) 2.30 Klasylur (6688) 3.00 Wishome (5125) 3.30 Stone Around (1133) 4.00
Banno the Kid (4859) 4.30 Plugada (9132) 5.00 Sister Seiser (5220) 5.30 Moesha

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm E UK (5084) 7.30 Roceanne (9751) 8.00 Roseanne (1404) 8.30 Monty Python's Flyng Carous (5369) 9.00 Cheers (29161) 9.30 Taxa (85639) 10.00 Garry Shanding s Show (31220) 10.30 Frazar (57568) 11.00 Armothodg and Miller (10336) 11.30 Monty Fython's Flyng Carous (94775) 12.00 The Critic (69602) 12.30em Soep (53553) 1.00 Cheers (67319) 1.30 Taxa (88756) 2.00 E UK (70553) 2.30 Armstrong and Miller (59060) 3.00 Frazar (15553) 2.30-4.00 Garry Shandhor's Show (73840)

8.00pm Pobocop (6724107) 9.00 Twilght Zone (7872349) 9.30 Twilght Zone (6151323) 10.00 Tour of Duty (9174829) 11.00 File: Where's Popper (433092) 1.00am Robocop (4740878) 2.00 Tour of Duty (6509114) 3.00 Files: Where's Poppa? (2527737) 6.00 Twildys Zone (9574621) 5.30 Twildys Zone (5676114)

6.00em Tery Lawng (8704220) 9.00 Glad-

Togs and Giarnour (1992862) 9,15 Gordon Elioti (8033404) 19,05 Jeny Springer (377317) 11,00 Young and the Recifies (5883152) 11,50 Frontside (250097) 12,25pm Why Me? Real Life Case Studies (51522423) 12,55 Femperat (177517) 1,45 Rolonde (6437220) 23,00 Agony Expenence (4016386) 3,00 Line at Three (64393336) 4,05 Jeny Springer (1431161) 5,05 Lingo (65226130) 5,36 Linely Ladders (4010152) 5,00 I Dicarn of Jearne (8498591) 6,35 Ready, Speedy, Cook (1406686) 7,05 Beroleskie (1573248) 7,40 Who's Sorry Hour? (2592667) 8,05 Relends (486265) 9,00 FILM: The Certifer Affair (8540586) 11,00-12,00 Sec. Life Down Under

5.50 Spelbound (447152) 6.20 Prize Timo (808299) 6.30 Catcholyase (337862) 6.55 [14176] 12.30pm Hart to Hart (69373) 1.30 Lou Grant (91718) 2.30 Snowy River — the McGicgor Saga (70398) 3.30 All Together Now (28114) 4.00-5.00 Fall Guy (34911) ZEE TV

7.00am Jasgan 7.30 News 8.00 Geans Anjaans 6.30 Mas 9.00 Eber Junios Manga 9.30 Abmorth 10.00 Tara 11.00 Low Cal 55ow 11.30 Dance Ments 12.00 Darzer 12.30pm Sauda 1.00 Fillate Behruphys 4.00 Public Demand 8.00 ZEF Zone 5.30 Alt Lible 6.00 Campus 6.30 ZEF and You 7.00 Namal Kombination 7.30 Sancol Acri

wews and the latest music video charts

مِكذا من رالامل

ACROSS

1 Jug. baseball-player (7)

important person; ski mound (5)

10 We shall see eventually

14 (Sailor) on land (6)

. 17 Remain imperturbable (3,4,1,4)

12 Latin verbal noun; on the back (6)

22 Feast children's comic (5) 23 One from Salonika (5)

24 Highest peerage rank (7)

SOLUTION TO NO 1026

21 Placebo 27 Lederhosen

15 Weepie 18 Drown 19 Mash

All flights subject to availability.

Change (5) W E Johns' flying hero (7)

Yellowstone Park state (7)

ACROSS: | Derogatory 8 Villein 9 Drake 10 Trio

11 Beholden 13 Vogue 14 Abode 16 Retraces 17 Bead 20 Ascot

DOWN: I Divot 2 Rolling stock 3 Grew 4 Tunnel 5 Radio ham 6 Handsomeness 7 Seance 12 Repurtee 13 Verbal

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1022

In association with BRITISH MIDIAND

ACROSS: I Discharge 6 Mad 8 Fulcrum 9 Risen 10 Nape 11 Quandary 13 Easter 14 Island 17 Wee Frees 18 Lens 20 Fishy 21 Purcell 22 Rod 23 Leniently

lst PRIZE of a return ticket travelling comomy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND'S domestic or international network is D

2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLANDS dementic network is D Clarkson, Ackworth, Pomefract, West Yorkshire.

DOWN: 1 Defense: 2 Self-possessed: 3 Hurl: 4 Rumpus 5 Erriness: 6 Mismanagement: 7 Dingy: 12 Betrayal: 15 Display: 16 Deepen: 17 Water: 19 Urge:

-A - 4: 40 A

C. C. of Street,

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ATHLETICS 45

Record incentives pave the way for Olympic prize money

SP()KI

CRICKET 46

Rival's claims leave Germon playing for keeps



WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26 1997

Surgery halts England striker

Shearer pays high price for rushed return

By David Maddock

IN WHAT was a cruel blow as much for Newcastle United as for the player himself, Alan Shearer went under the surgeon's knife at precisely 3pm yesterday afternoon — kick-off time - to have a corrective operation on his injured

it is the third time the England captain has suffered such an injury within the past eight months and raises the sorrying question of how long Newcastle will be without the services of their most important player as they pursue success on two

Shearer first injured his left groin in April last year, but to lead the England attack during the European championship. Covered in glory after becoming the leading scorer in the tournament and then securing a world-record £15 million move to Newcastle, he soon suffered another setback

This time he pulled his right groin and the prognosis was not good. Doctors predicted he would be absent for at least two months, but Shearer, typi-cally, recovered in half the time. The implication now, though, is that he returned too quickly, because he has damaged the same groin once

What is certain is that Shearer will be absent for at least a month and that will be damaging enough. He will miss the Uela Cup quarterfinal tie with AS Monaco and the return leg in France two weeks later. The problem for Newcastle is exacerbated by the fact that Faustino Asprilla. his likely replacement, is suspended for the first leg after he was booked for waving a corner flag while celebrating a goal in the previous round of the competition.

TIMES

No 1027

Rehearse (8) Symbolic animal (5)

Got with difficulty (4-3)

Rough stone pieces (6)

Luxuriant alcoholic (4)

13 Cause to happen: annoy (7)

S African rhino whip (7)

18 Use brain; sort of tank (5)

11 Valuable piece handed

16 Emotionally cold (6)

19 (Give) prize (5) 20 Tiny branchlet (4)

Shearer will also be ruled out of several crucial FA Carling Premiership matches, just as Kenny Daiglish, the manager, has placed the club in a challenging position near the top of the table. It is a blow, too, because Dalglish recently sold Paul Kitson, another re-serve forward, to West Ham United for a fee of £2.5 million. and even the dependable Les

Given that he has suffered the same injury within the space of three months, Shearer could be sidelined for far longer and that will surely deal a decisive blow to Newcastle's title chances. He will certainly miss top-of-the-table games against Liverpool and Wimbledon and a further month's absence would virtually rule him out for the remainder of the campaign.

Ferdinand, Shearer's regular

striking partner, is carrying

Such a scenario is likely. given Dalglish's reluctance to gamble with the fitness of a player he recognises as integral to the long-term future of

When Shearer suffered a serious cruciate ligament injury at Blackburn Rovers, he



Shearer: operation

TWO

was restrained from returning - even when he protested his fitness - for nearly a year by a cautious manager: Daiglish.

The operation yesterday was performed by Gerry Gilmore, a celebrated surgeon

who has pioneered a technique to deal with a condition that has become known as "Gilmore's Groin". Shearer spent last night in The London Hospital and Gilmore reported no complications.

'Anyone watching Alan Shearer in recent weeks would agree he hasn't looked him-Graham Courtney, a club spokesman, said last night. He has been struggling with the injury and in the end we had no option but to send him in for the opera-

We are hoping that he will be back to fitness very quickly. but it is difficult to say at this stage. He was unlucky to pick up the same injury, but it does happen occasionally. We are just hoping it will not prove too serious.

Shearer suffered the criping cruciate ligament injury in December 1992 and it was thought that his career was under threat, but it is the groin problem that has caused consistent worry. He recently explained that his natural build, with such powerful thighs, places an undue strain on his groins.

It is not only Newcastle who will wait through the next few weeks with bated breath and crossed fingers.

Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, is resigned to losing his captain for the international with Mexico at the end of next month, but he must fear a longer absence that would rule Shearer out of the World Cup qualifier against Georgia at Wembley in April. Dalglish has already been

active in the transfer market and yesterday approached Liverpool to ask about the availability of Rob Jones, their England defender. He may now be tempted to look for a forward, however, given his



Expectancy at Stamford Bridge may be high, but Chelsea's charismatic coach does not feel under immediate pressure to win trophies

Gullit in harmony with the Blues

BY OLIVER HOLT

IT TOOK an hour of hard soothe Ruud Gullit's aching body yesterday lunchtime. Gullit's part in Chelsea re-serves' 2-1 defeat by Portsmouth's second team on Monday night had left him with lingering reminders that his playing days are

His coaching career. though, has only just begun, and when he had finally struggied up the stairs at the training ground near Heathrow airport that the club shares with Imperial College, he took a seat beneath a sporting honours board and treated his listeners to a masterclass in football man-

agement instead. Gullit talked first about how he copes with pressure, the secret of his serenity during matches. "I get rid of my nerves by not watching the game as a supporter," he said. watch how our players

behave during the game. I do said. "I do not live that not follow the ball. I follow particular way. I have both their movements. I look to see if the team is in the right

Then the discussion veered from Chelsea's FA Cup fifthround replay against Leicester City tonight to Dennis Bergkamp's fear of flying. Although what Gullit said about the match at Stamford Bridge was periloulsy close to "take-each-game-as-itcomes" mantra trotted out by so many sportsmen, his words had his own peculiar twist of wisdom wrapped

around them. There was no fear of being favourite to win the competition in Gullit's words, but he made it plain that his books for the future and his own peace of mind do not rest so much on winning trophies as they do in improving his

I do not think about the end . of the season and about what we might have won or what we might not have won," he

wanted to come home back to Kelso. Playing at Murrayfield will be the biggest occasion of

Apart from Tait, the other

new face, if that he can be

called, is Craig Chalmers. The Melrose stand-off half returns

at the expense of Gregor

Townsend, who, after an indif-

ferent performance against England, finds himself shunt-ed back to inside centre, the

position that he occupied

Townsend partners Tait in a

revamped midfield, the fifth

different centre pairing Scot-

land have fielded this season.

To accommodate Tait, Tony

Stanger reverts to the right

wing. David Johnston, the

backs coach, said: "We now

believe we have a combination

Lack of selectorial consisten-

cy cannot have helped Scot-

land's cause this season.

Twenty-six different players

have been capped to date, yet the right blend is still proving

elusive. Once again it is the

threequarters who have car-

ried the can for the disappoint-

ing results. The pack, which,

according to Richie Dixon, the

en bloc. The only change, a

row, where Peter Walton and

Rob Wainwright switch

places. Wainwright returns to

ment will be announced today.

that will perform."

against Wales and Italy,

my career.

particular way. I have both feet on the ground and I want to keep them on the ground. Everywhere I have played I have won trophies, but that was because I worked very

"I know there will always be pressure to win trophies, but I am used to living with that. It seems to be more of a problem.

for other people than it is for me because I live from week to

"I am not satisfied yet with what I have done at Chelsea. I just want to get better and better and better, and what the result of that will be I do not know. But before I became coach, I think there was more talent in the team than maybe they showed, and the change in the players is what I am most proud of. They are doing things now that they did not know they had in them. "I just want to keep doing

things in my own way, in the way I have been doing them throughout my career. Chelea wanted me to do this job and it took me quite a while to think about it. But it is a great opportunity to get experience and it is too early for people to be saying: 'Do you feel you. have to win grophies?"

After taking a two-goal lead at Filbert Street ten days ago, Cheisea allowed Leicester to creep back into the game and force a draw, but their spirits were revitalised by their pulsating FA Carling Premier-skip match with Manchester United in west London on Saturday and Gullit says that he is content with the way the

team is evolving. "I am happy with progress we have made," he said. "The interest in our team when we go away from home speaks for itself. The stadiums are always crowded. People something always happens at our games now and that is a

"It is having a snowball effect too. I think a lot of people do not realise just how much football fans in Europe are talking about Chelsea. I see television programmes from all over the Continent and they talk a lot about Chelsea. It means that the players are doing something

players, too, not me." Finally, he dismissed suggestions that he might have fired up the Leicester players by suggesting that they were lucky to take the tie to a replay. courtesy of Eddie Newton's late own goal. He said that he had just been telling the truth. And when he was asked if he had been concentrating on anything in particular in ready. We have been working on kicking the ball away instead of into our own net. he said.

MAP L.

Scotland identify Tait as answer to midfield riddle BY MARK SOUSTER Rob Andrew [director of rugby FIVE NATIONS at Newcastle] gave me a chance and I'm glad I took it. I

Scotland and rugby union, Alan Tait's career came full circle vesterday when he was named in the Scotland team to tions' championship on Saturday. Tait, 32, will win his ninth cap, at outside centre, in a side that shows six changes, four of them positional, from that which succumbed to England at Twickenham on February 1. Having been included in the

provisional squad last week, it was no surprise that Tait was confirmed yesterday in the starting XV. Such has been the impact of former rugby league players in Wales that Tait is unrealistically being seen by some as an instant Rob Wainwright, the Scotland captain, tried to play down expectations. "We are looking for a steady game from Alan. we are not looking for some messiah," he said.

Tait, who was capped 14 times by the Great Britain rugby league team during spells at Widnes and Leeds,



CHAMPIONSHIP

said: "It's all come round pretty quickly. Six months ago my career was at a crossroads, I was unhappy in rugby league. I didn't like summer rugby, and I wondered what I was going to do next. Then

SCOTLAND

R J S Shephted (Michosal): A G Stanger 11 (1992). A V Tall (Newpastio), G P J Tostshend Northweston, K M Logan Shring South): C M Chailmans (Michosol, B W Redpatts (Matricol), T J Smith (Watchards), G G Ellis (Curry, M J States), G G Stanger, G W Weir (Newpastic), A Shephter (Michosophi, Cascart, G W Weir (Newpastic), A Read (Michosophi, Republic), I R Smith (Michosophi, P Watter, Newpastic), R Republic (Michosophi), G Armstrong (Newpastic), D F Crome (Newpastic), D F Crome (Newpastic), L S J Ströffers (Michosophi), S J

Injuries worry Rowell

JACK ROWELL, the England coach, was faced with a lengthy casualty list when his squad gathered at Marlow yesterday to prepare for the meeting with France at Twickenham on Saturday (David Hands writes).

Neither Richard Hill, of the chosen XV. nor Mike Catt from the replacements, was able to train because of ankle and calf injuries respectively: both locks, Martin Johnson and Simon Shaw, are carrying bruises, though Phil de

Rowell is aware that, after

coach, "performed creditably at Twickenham", is retained positional one, is in the back

Glanville, the captain, is optimistic that his turned ankle is on the mend.

his players scored 87 points in two matches, public expecta-tion will be high. He said: *French rugby has been re-launched under Jean-Claude Skrela and Pierre Villepreux and they will not be constrained mentally by playing England as they have been for a number of years."

international. ☐ Nick Popplewell, the Newcastle prop, has withdrawn from the Ireland team with a hamstring strain. His replace-

Maguire to miss out on Festival

BY OUR RACING STAFF

ADRIAN MAGUIRE WILL miss his third Cheltenham Festival in a row after breaking his right arm at Leicester vesterday. He was kicked or the ground after taking a heavy fall from Foxwoods er, David Nicholson, at the second fence of the Rutland Water Novices' Chase,

Maguire was immediately picked up by the racecourse ambulance and taken to Leicester Royal Infirmary for

His wife, Sabrina, confirmed the extent of his injuries last night. "Adrian's arm is broken," she said. "He has broken his humerus, the bone between his shoulder and elbow. It is a clean break, but he is in a lot of pain."

Maguire, 25, was ruled out of the Festival last year after breaking his collarbone in a fall from Smiling Chief at Newbury on March I. Twelve months earlier the death of his mother, Phyllis, forced the jockey to miss the meeting. In 1994 Maguire won the Champion Hurdle, Champion Chase and Triumph Hurdle

at Cheltenham, The injury will be a hitter blow to Maguire, who had a strong book of rides lined up for the Festival They included Viking Flagship (Champion Chase), Relkeel Champion Hurdle), Barton Bank (Gold Cup), Mulligan (Arkie Chase) and L'Opera

blind-side flanker, his pre-ferred position, with Walton at (Triumph Hurdle). No 8 for the first time in an He has been enjoying his best spell of the season recently, riding five winners at Kempton's Racing Post Chase meeting on Saturday.

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MORSE

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